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LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Fifth Session)

(Vol. XVIII contains Nos. 1-10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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N.B.—The sign + marked above a name of a Member on Questions, which were orally answered indicates that the Question was orally asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

LOK SABHA

Thursday, 21st August, 1958.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Recruitment Qualifications for Government Service

\+

*328. **Shri V. C. Shukla:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Dr. Sushila Nayar:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken over the issue whether a University degree should at all be considered essential for ordinary Government jobs other than those relating to high administrative or technical posts; and

(b) if so, broad details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). Yes. A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix II, annexure No. 80.]

Shri V. C. Shukla: From the statement it appears that the Cabinet has decided that a university degree would not be essential for Central Class III (non-Clerical), State Subordinate (non-Clerical) and Upper and Lower Division Clerical services. May I know whether the graduates who may also compete will get any preference over the non-graduates for selection to these services?

Shri Datar: No, Sir. They will be allowed to compete, but no special preference will be given.

Shri V. C. Shukla: Has the Committee recommended any other changes in the recruitment procedure of the Government?

Shri Datar: These are the only changes which have been considered and a decision has been taken.

Shri Damani: May I know whether the State Governments were consulted in this matter before taking the final decision?

Shri Datar: The State Governments' views were considered by this committee, and also some members appeared as witnesses before them. Therefore, we are going to make certain suggestions to the State Governments regarding their officers.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement we find that for clerical services, upper division, intermediate will be enough, and for the lower division, matriculation. May I know after the decision of the Cabinet how many have been taken in on the basis of the decision?

Shri Datar: These are the decisions which have been recently taken. They have still to be implemented.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know whether the States have been advised to conform to this decision?

Shri Datar: It is for the State Governments, but we are going to advise them to conform to this.

Shri D. C. Sharma: From the statement I find that the condition of a

university degree has been relaxed only in three cases, and they are the clerical type, if I can put it like that May I know in what way this committee has suggested any departure from the old practice? I think the old practice continues.

Shri Datar: A copy of the report of this committee was placed on the Table of he House. They have given various convincing reasons why a degree should not be necessary in these cases.

Shri V. C. Shukla: By what time does the Government expect to implement the recommendations already approved by the Cabinet?

Shri Datar: About two years time.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It is said in the statement that the requisite qualification for upper division clerk will be intermediate. May I know whether the existing lower division clerks who have already passed or are intermediates will be promoted to upper division clerks' posts as a result of this?

Shri Datar: I have not been able to follow the hon. Member

Shri S. M. Banerjee: An existing employee in a particular establishment who is a lower division clerk can only be promoted if he is a graduate. With this relaxation in the qualification to intermediate, will such persons be promoted even if they are intermediate?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B Pant): The matter will be considered.

Martyrs' Memorial

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*329. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Radha Raman:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Vajpayee:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 909 on the 12th March, 1958 and lay a statement showing:

(a) the important suggestions received from eminent artists and architects and other prominent persons or bodies regarding the site and form of an All India Memorial in commemoration of all those martyrs who laid down their lives during 1857 to 1947 in the struggle for freedom;

(b) whether Government have finalised the consideration of these suggestions;

(c) if so, the nature of decisions taken; and

(d) the estimated cost of the memorial?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (d). A number of sites have been suggested from time to time the two sites which are considered most suitable from various points of view are:—

(1) the site in front of Red Fort ramparts on the axis of Chandni chowk; and

(2) site in the open lawns outside Kashmere Gate.

It is expected that a final decision regarding the site and the form etc. of the memorial will be taken shortly.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether the consideration of this suggestion will be entrusted to some special committee appointed for this purpose, or will be done departmentally?

Shri Datar: Already the committee's views have been taken into account. Government will take a decision now.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमान्, चूंकि गांधी जी के स्मारक के सम्बन्ध में काफी देरी हुई है, इसलिये यह आशंका करने की गुंजाइश है कि इस बारे में भी काफी देरी होगी। क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि इसमें जल्दी से जल्दी निर्णय करने का प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है ?

श्री डांगे : जी हां ।

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: May I know the names of the persons whose memorial Government are thinking to erect?

Mr. Speaker: All the names here?

Shri Datar: This will be a memorial in honour of all those who took part in these movements during the last 100 years.

श्री बाजपेयी : स्वतंत्रता के युद्ध को समाप्त हुये दस साल से ऊपर हो गये । सरकार उस सम्बन्ध में जो स्मारक बनाने जा रही है उसमें शीघ्रता करने में क्या विशेष कठिनाइयां हो रही हैं ?

पंडित गो० ब० पन्त : शीघ्रता की जा रही है ।

Shri Mahanty: May I know whether martyrs have not been appearing since 1947 and whether Government will also take into consideration the setting up of a memorial to martyrs in the post-1947 period? Is it not right?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Because the country became free in 1947.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: What are the important forms suggested for this martyrs' memorial?

Pandit G. B. Pant: A column of about 90 feet will be erected.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Subodh Hansda.

Shri Subodh Hansda: 330.

Mr. Speaker: No hon. Minister gets up. The Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs.

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): I am here, but the question has not been asked.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, the question has been asked. Hon. Members will put the question loudly.

Indian Museum, Calcutta

*330. **Shri Subodh Hansda:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of the fire-proof building for Indian Museum, Calcutta, has since been started;

(b) if so, the progress made upto date; and

(c) the time by which it is expected to be completed?

The Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The work is expected to be completed in about 3 years from the date of commencement.

Shri Subodh Hansda: What are the reasons that led to the construction of the new building for the Indian Museum, Calcutta?

Shri Humayun Kabir: For preserving the invaluable collections in the Zoological Survey and other spirit collections in the museum.

Shri Subodh Hansda: What is the total amount set apart for the construction of this building?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The estimates are that the building will cost about Rs. 19·75 lakhs.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Ram Krishan.

Shri Humayun Kabir: The matter is still under consideration.

Mr. Speaker: The question has not been asked. Shri Ram Krishan is not present. Hon. Members, to avoid all confusion or inconvenience, will get up in their seats and put the question. Even before I have looked at them they put the question, sitting, half-standing. Therefore, I sometimes feel that there is no question that is put. Now, Shri Ram Krishan is absent.

Managerial Structure of Public Enterprises

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*122. { Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shri Shri Supakar:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined and reviewed the managerial structure of the various state enterprises and come to any conclusions for better management; and

(b) how many officers of the Central Government are Chairmen or Directors of more than one State enterprise, more than two State enterprises and more than three State enterprises?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have decided that the present managerial structure should be tried for a few more years.

(b) Twenty officers are shown as Director of more than one enterprise, of whom fourteen are in two enterprises each, two in three enterprises each, and four in more than three enterprises each.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know wheher the reported appointments of Shri K. C. Neogy, Shri G. L. Mehta and Shri Feroze Gandhi mark any shift in the Governments present policy, and if these appointments are effected, may I know what are the terms of their appointment?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: I do not think any official announcements have been made regarding them.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Do I understand correctly that these Government officers will continue to be directors in one concern, more than one concern, more than two concerns?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: As I have already stated in my answer to part (a) of the question, the present managerial structure has been decided by Government to be tried for some more years.

Shri C. D. Pande: May I know whether Government have considered the advisability of appointing directors and managing directors from the department to a concern which is under that department, for, again, they have to submit to the Ministry their advice in respect of that concern, and that leads to some contradiction and maladministration?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): These are questions which are considered from time to time. It depends upon the availability of officers or public men from time to time.

Shri C. D. Pande: That is a bad practice.

Shri Tyagi: May I know whether the twenty officers who hold charge as chairmen and directors of various concerns have had their services seconded to these concerns, or whether they are still serving in the Government of India, and they do this as a part-time job?

Shri C. D. Pande: In the same department

Shri Morarji Desai: Those who are managing directors are absolutely with the corporations, that is, they do that work for full time. But other directors and the chairmen are ex-officio directors and chairmen, that is, they do their work in their department.

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that the general tendency today in the Government is not to appoint the secretaries of departments as chairmen of any of these concerns, but to try and see that they are not put in any such embarrassing situations?

Shri Morarji Desai: That is the general policy.

Shri Bimal Ghose: May I know what Government really mean by managerial structure, management by departments or by corporations or by public limited companies? What is it that they are continuing?

Shri Morarji Desai: As corporations, or limited companies or whatever they are, it is continuing.

Shri Bimal Ghose: Everything is continuing?

Shri Morarji Desai: They are continuing.

Shri Mahanty: May I know how many officers of the External Affairs Ministry are there either as chairmen or as directors of these concerns?

Shri Morarji Desai: Only one, I think.

Shri Mahanty: In that case, how is the External Affairs Ministry concerned with these business enterprises?

Shri Morarji Desai: It is not as an External Affairs Ministry officer that any officer is appointed.....

Shri Tyagi: They have spare time.

Shri Morarji Desai: It is difficult for me to give a reply about every officer, concerning the various departments.

Shri Morarka: May I know the maximum number of corporations in which the same person is director or chairman?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: I believe it is not more than three.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Do I undersand that Government have already taken a decision that they do not contemplate any change for quite a few years, or whether this question is actively engaging the attention of Government?

Shri Morarji Desai: It is engaging the attention of Government even now.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: How do I reconcile.....

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: There is a great disparity.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow. I have already allowed a number of questions.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I am not asking any fresh question. I only want a reconciliation between the two answers given.

Mr. Speaker: Both are reconcilable.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: They want to try the present structure....

Mr. Speaker: The structure at present, as advised, would continue, but every day, and every hour, it is being reconsidered in the light of experience.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The Deputy Minister says.....

Mr. Speaker: I understand her statement and the statement of the Finance Minister, as much as the hon. Member does.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The two statements are irreconcilable.

Mr. Speaker: There are no irreconcilable statements. Next question.

Shri Naval Prabhakar: No. 333.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: May I request that Q. No. 355 also may be taken up along with this?

Mr. Speaker: Are they intimately connected? I leave it to the Minister. If he feels that they are intimately connected, he can answer both together.

नागा विद्रोही

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*३३३. श्री नवल प्रभाकर
श्री मोहन स्वरूप
श्री भक्त दर्शन :
श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :
श्री म० रा० मुनिस्वामी :
श्री हेमराज :

क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अभी हाल में बहुत से नागा विद्रोही उत्तरी कछार में घुस

आये थे और उन्होंने सीमावर्ती गावों में लूट-मार की ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी लूट-मार का ब्योरा क्या है ;

(ग) गावों को इससे कितनी हानि हुई ; और

(घ) पीड़ित क्षेत्रों में लोगों की रक्षा के लिये क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

गृह कार्य मंत्री (पंडित गो० ब० पन्त) : (क) से (ग). जी हां, विरोधी नागाओं के कुछ हमलों और लूट-मार से चार व्यक्तियों की जान गई और करीब २०,००० रुपये की पब्लिक और प्राइवेट सम्पत्ति का नुकसान हुआ ।

(घ) राज्य सरकार ने जरूरी कार्यवाही कर ली है और सम्बन्धित इलाकों में और अधिक संख्या में पुलिस भेज दी है ।

Nagas

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*355. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:**
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:
Shri Damani:
Shri Khushwaqt Rai:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Wodeyar:
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Bhogji Bhai:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Vajpayee:
Shri Kalika Singh:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Tyagi:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Bimal Ghose:
Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Assar:
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will he Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Naga hostiles have contacts with Pakistan;

(b) whether any documents or other proof in substantiation of this have come into the possession of Government; and

(c) what action has Government taken in the matter?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G B Pant): (a) and (b). Some papers and documents were recovered by the Assam Police from the house of a Naga named Daily Namo, which indicated attempts on the part of hostile Nagas to enlist Pakistan's assistance. It also appears from these papers that the contact was maintained through the Assistant High Commissioner for Pakistan at Shillong.

(c) At the request of the Government of India, the Government of Pakistan has withdrawn this official from Shillong

Shri Basumatari: May I know whether since the new set-up of administration brought under the Central Government, the activities of the hostile Nagas are on the increase or decrease? That is the first question..

Mr. Speaker: No 'first question' Only one question can be asked at a time

Shri Basumatari: That was my question by way of a supplementary to Q No. 333

Mr. Speaker: All right

Shri Basumatari: I shall ask a supplementary on Q No. 355 later on

Mr. Speaker: Two questions cannot be combined and asked one after the other

Pandit G. B. Pant: They have been on the decrease for some time.

Shri Basumatari: My supplementary on Q No 355 is this. May I know whether it is a fact that one young Naga has been arrested on suspicion that he had contacts with the Pakistan Asst High Commissioner at Shillong:

Pandit G. B. Pant: Some Nagas have been arrested, and it was in consequences of certain documents

which were seized from them that certain conclusions were drawn.

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: With reference to Q. No. 838, may I know whether any financial assistance was made available to the State Government for giving relief to the sufferers from Naga depradation in those areas?

Pandit G. B. Pant: So far as the Naga unit itself is concerned, relief is administered directly by the Centre, through the officials who are serving there. So far as the Army is concerned, the Centre has been considering, and would like to consider sympathetically their requests for assistance

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि नागा जो हथियार इस्तेमाल करते हैं, वे उन्हें कहां से प्राप्त हुये हैं ?

पंडित गो० ब० पन्त : पुराने जमाने में जब लड़ाई हुई थी, तो जापान वाले वहां गये थे। उस वक्त कई हथियार वहां रह गये। तब से वे जंगलों में इधर उधर छिपे रहे। उन हथियारों का इस्तेमाल वे लोग करते रहते हैं। कुछ उनमें यह भी माहा है कि वे मामूली किस्म के हथियार खुद भी बना लेते हैं।

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: In answer to question No. 355, the Minister stated that representations have been made to the Government of Pakistan with regard to the Assistant High Commissioner in Shillong. In view of the fact that reports have appeared in the press that Naga hostiles get help from Pakistan in the form of arms, and the Army authorities also have not denied that report but only stated that they did not succeed in their mission, may I know what steps are being taken to seal in the border and to post security posts in that area?

Pandit G. B Pant: On the border, we have our check posts, and also police guards, to see to it that nobody from one side or the other causes any damage or indulges in any crime.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या यह सत्य है कि उत्तरी कछार जिले में नागा विद्रोहियों ने जो आक्रमण किया, वह अपने ढंग की पहली घटना नहीं है, बल्कि और भी इस तरह की घटनायें हो रही हैं ? क्या उनकी रोक थाम के लिये कोई विशेष कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

पंडित गो० ब० पन्त : माननीय सदस्य ने किसी खास गांव का नाम लिया है वहां ऐसी कार्यवाही हुई। मुझे गांव के नाम तो याद नहीं हैं। कई जगहों में बेजा हरकतें की गई हैं और उनको रोकने की और उनको सजा देने की कोशिश की गई है।

Shri Jaipal Singh: Between the answer to 333(a) where a 'large number of Naga hostiles' are mentioned and the speech of the hon. Deputy Minister the other day in which he referred to 'a small section of the Nagas' there is a conflict. May we get a rough idea of what is the number?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Let me first understand what is the conflict.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Part (a) of question 333 was 'whether it is a fact that a large number of Naga hostiles recently penetrated into North Cachar ....' and so on and the answer is 'yes'.

Pandit G. B. Pant: That has not been admitted in the answer.

Shri Jaipal Singh: If it has not been admitted, may we know how small the figure is because we are told that only a small section is involved, and martial law has been made into a regular law?

Pandit G. B. Pant: It is very difficult to give the correct figure. After all, the Naga hostiles wander about and roam about, and they are for the most part concealing themselves in the recesses of the hills. But their numbers are dwindling. Many of them—at least, the important ones

among them—have either come overground or appeared before the authorities, and the depredations in the Naga Unit itself have dwindled considerably.

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: A UPI news item published in the *Hindusthan Standard* (Calcutta edition) of 10th May, 1958 revealed that facilities have been offered by Pakistan for training Naga hostiles in the East Pakistan Hills Battalion. If so, may I know what further information Government have in this regard?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Government have no authentic information about it.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: A report has appeared in the Press that a prominent businessman in Cachar is said to have given shelter to some Naga hostiles and given them help to cross the border with letters of introduction to people in Sylhet. May I know whether any reports have reached Government to this effect and if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Enquiries were made and it was found that prominent businessmen were not doing anything of this sort.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know how much time Government expect to take to restore peace in the Naga area?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I hope if we all co-operate and if we succeed in winning the goodwill of the Nagas, it will not take much time.

श्री बाजपेयी : गृह-मंत्री महोदय ने अभी कहा है कि कुछ ऐसे कागज-पत्र बरामद हुये हैं जिनके आधार पर पाकिस्तान ने अपने असिस्टेंट हाई-कमिश्नर को वापिस बुला लिया है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि उन कागज पत्रों से क्या केवल पाकिस्तान का एक ही अफसर आपत्तिजनक कार्रवाइयों में संलग्न पाया गया है या कुछ ऐसे भी सूत्र मिले हैं जिनसे यह प्रकट होता है कि पाकिस्तान का सम्पूर्ण प्रशासन नागा क्षेत्र में उपद्रव कराने के पीछे है ?

पंडित जी० ब० पन्त : कोई पत्र ऐसे नहीं मिले हैं जिनसे मालूम हो कि पाकिस्तान का सम्पूर्ण प्रशासन नागाओं के पीछे है ।

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The hon. Minister has stated that it is the goodwill of the Nagas which we have to earn. It is stated in all our papers that there has been some contact between Pakistan and the Nagas and *vice versa* and there has been arrest also and a Pakistan official has gone back. This has agitated the public mind. May I know how far this is true and what steps have been taken? Has this been discussed with the loyal Nagas as to what we should do in the matter?

Pandit G. B. Pant: As has been stated in the answer, the Assistant High Commissioner has been withdrawn because these papers indicated in a way his complicity. The people among the Nagas have been trying to win the sympathy of Pakistan on the other side, of some of the officials or those who are in charge. This indicated that this particular officer on our side had been instrumental in giving them some assistance and facilities. So he has been removed.

Shri Nausher Bharucha: Since the hon. Minister has stated that the number of Nagas hostiles has been dwindling, where was the necessity of promulgating the Ordinance?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The reasons have been given previously. While hostile activities in the Naga area itself have gone down considerably—they have been squeezed out and they have forfeited the sympathies of the Nagas—they are extending their activities to other areas in Assam and also Manipur. As there was no such law in force in these areas, it was considered necessary in order to deal with the situation as it has developed, to promulgate the Ordinance.

Poor Students Aid Fund

*335. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 528 on the 26th February, 1958 and state the further progress made so far in setting up of Poor Students Aid Fund according to the conditions prescribed by the University Grants Commission?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix II, annexure No. 81.]

Shri D. C. Sharma: From the statement, I find that though grants totalling about Rs. 75,000 have been given to 12 Universities, nothing has been done so far as the current year is concerned. May I know by what time the grants will be given to these poor students aid fund, when it will be finalised for 1958-59 and whether the students will get the grants?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: As far as 1958-59 is concerned, the University Grants Commission has invited proposals from Universities. As soon as these have been received, grants will be sanctioned.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Only 12 Universities have been given some grants. I do not want to speak about the meagreness of these grants, but what has happened to other Universities? There are more than 30 Universities.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Circular letters are sent to all the Universities and these grants are paid to those who ask for them.

Shri Jadhav: May I know whether there was any demand by Bombay, Madras and Mysore Universities for aid to poor students?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I have already stated that circular letters were sent to all the Universities. Universities which sent their proposals were sanctioned grants by the University Grants Commission. The hon. Member can draw his own conclusions with regard to other Universities.

Shri Tangamani: For 1957-58, Rs. 75,000 were granted to 12 Universities which do not include Madras or Annamalai. The hon. Minister has also stated that for 1958-59, circular letters were issued to all Universities. How many Universities have so far replied and do they include Madras and Annamalai?

Mr. Speaker: He said 12.

Shri Tangamani: That relates to 1957-58. They were given from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 10,000. For 1958-59, circulars have gone to the various Universities. How many have so far replied and what are their names?

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow the 30 names to be given here.

Shri Tangamani: Do they include Madras and Annamalai?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I do not have that information here.

Special Tax Concessions

*336. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have granted any special tax concession to any individual company or concern;

(b) if so, the nature of the concession granted together with the name of the concessionaires; and

(c) the circumstances under which such concession was granted to the individual concern?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) The Government of India have not, so far, granted any special income-tax concessions, not authorised by law, to any individual company or concern. However, certain tax concessions have been undertaken to be given to Standard Vacuum Oil Company, which is at present engaged in oil exploration and production in West Bengal in collaboration with the Government of India.

(b) The assurances given to the Standard Vacuum Oil Company in matters relating to Indian Income-tax are mentioned in the Memorandum of Agreement dated the 24th December, 1953, between that company and the Government of India. Copies of this agreement have already been made available to the Parliament Library. Broadly speaking, the promised tax concessions are:

(i) a part of the losses of every kind, whether revenue or capital, sustained by Standard Vacuum on infructuous exploration will be allowed as a deduction from its marketing income; and

(ii) after the commencement of commercial production an additional allowance ranging from 25 per cent. to 45 per cent. of the net income derived from oil production, will be granted every year. The Standard Vacuum has agreed to forego the concession which would have been admissible to it under Section 15C of the Income-tax Act.

(c) These concessions were dictated by national interest. Their implementation will require amendment of the existing law and an Amendment Bill in this behalf will be introduced in the House in due course.

Shri Morarka: Apart from Stanvac to which this concession has been given, is it not a fact that special tax concessions have been given to the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Co., and the Burmah Oil Co., at the time they agreed to establish refineries in India?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: All the income-tax concessions are in compliance with the law.

Shri Morarka: My question is not answered. The hon. Deputy Minister said that the only concession given is to Stanvac. Is it not a fact that tax concessions of a special nature are given to the Burmah Oil Co., and the Anglo-Saxon Oil Co., at the time they agreed to establish refineries in India?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: I have answered that question in part (a). The hon. Member has asked about special concessions given; and I have already answered special concessions. All the concessions given to other companies are in compliance with the provisions of the Indian Income-tax Act.

Shri Morarka: The nature of the concession given to these companies which I have just mentioned.....

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow this kind of discussion. The hon. Member put a question whether any special concessions have been granted. The answer was: Yes; it is only in the case of Stanvac; and the details of the concession have also been given. Twice the hon. Member put a question with respect to other companies and asked whether special concessions have been given or not. On both the occasions the hon. lady Minister said that no special concessions other than the concessions under the Income-tax Act have been given. The hon. Member wants to pursue this and have a regular discussion and debate on this matter. I am not going to allow that.

Shri Prabhat Kar: May I know whether this concession which has been granted to this company has been granted to any other companies?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: The above-mentioned concession is a special one and has not been granted to other companies because of the different nature of the work they are doing.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Is Government aware of any such concession being given in a foreign country to any exploring company?

Mr. Speaker: To any of our companies exploring there?

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Then, I am not going to allow this. Order, order. Hon.

Members ought not to treat this Government as experts knowing everything about anything and everything in the world. Enough if the questions are addressed to them regarding their responsibilities in this House. I am not going to allow this question about exploring companies in other countries. They may or may not know.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: My question was this. Whenever such agreements are entered into, the agreements of foreign oil companies with neighbouring countries are also taken into consideration to know whether such concessions are granted there for exploration. I wanted to know whether Government is aware of the fact whether there are other countries in which such concessions are given to the companies.

Shri Tyagi: May I have an idea of the total amount of money involved in these concessions?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: I would like to have notice for this.

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): It is difficult to say.

Shri Morarka: May I know whether it is a fact that Krupp Demag who are the consultants in Rourkela have been given a concession of 50 per cent; that is, have we agreed with them that they shall pay only 50 per cent, while 100 per cent will be charged from others?

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow individual cases to be discussed here.

Shri Morarka: May I make a submission on this point? My question relates to concessions given to certain companies. It did not relate to any specific company. The answer specifically gave a name. I have information with me which shows that tax concessions of a special nature are given not only to this company but to others also. But these concessions are such that they indicate a sort of discrimination.

Mr. Speaker: All I can do here is to ask the hon. Minister to give an answer. She has said that no special concessions have been given in other cases. She said so twice, that no special concessions have been given other than what are allowed under the Indian Income-tax Act. If the hon. Member has got any information showing that this is not correct, he may refer to this matter later on and not during the question hour. I allowed him to put questions twice.

Shri T. N. Singh: I want one information. It may involve a reference to the Constitution. According to the Constitution, no discrimination can be shown between one person and another in this country.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; I am not going to allow that.

Shri T. N. Singh: I am not raising a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow academic discussions relating to the Constitution.

Shri T. N. Singh: What I wanted to ask was this. Is there any category of persons for whom such special concessions are given? Is it on any consideration of category or on consideration of individuals that this concession is being given?

Shri Morarji Desai: As it was said, no concession outside the Income-tax Act has been given to anybody except what is mentioned in the answer.

Shri T. N. Singh: That is what I wanted to know.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Menon put a question which I understand differently. Now I understand this. What he meant was that some persons who have been entrusted with the work of oil exploration—these companies—have demanded special concessions in this country. Similar concessions have not been given to them in other countries when they have undertaken similar exploration. That seems to be his question. Why should there be

any special concession shown in this country to these oil companies for exploration when similar concessions have not been given to them or have not been demanded by them. I think that is the question he has put.

Shri Morarji Desai: That is not true; similar concessions are given elsewhere.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: The hon. Finance Minister said that similar concessions are given in other countries. Is the Government aware of the fact that in 1958 there were two agreements with Italian and Japanese companies.....

Mr. Speaker: Let the hon. Member take the statement of the hon. Minister. If he finds that there is any discrepancy there are other methods. Next question.

Shri Tangamani: No. 337.

Mr. Speaker: Regarding the previous question I said that there are other methods. What I meant was this. If hon. Members have got information different from what the hon. Minister gives out, I would not allow a discussion here. But those hon. Members may bring those cases specifically to the notice of the hon. Minister. I am sure, if the hon. Minister has made a mistake, he will himself ask for an opportunity to correct that mistake. Otherwise, it need not come up before the House.

Shri Ranga: Otherwise, he can take it to you.

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Morarji Desai: I will certainly enquire into the matter and inform the hon. Member individually and also inform you, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: After putting one or two questions, if there is still some difference between the hon. Member and the hon. Minister—that is, if they disagree—about a question of fact, the hon. Member concerned will pursue it separately and then bring it before me or before the House. If I find that an error has been made on the one side or the other, I will try to give an opportunity to have it corrected.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In cases where a particular question has not been satisfactorily dealt with, we have, under the Rules of Procedure, the method of raising a half-an-hour discussion. Does this ruling of yours do away with raising the matter in that way?

Mr. Speaker: My ruling does not do away with any other method.

S.A.S. Accountants

*337. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether in giving effect to the refixation of pay according to the recommendations of the Pay Commissions, S.A.S. Accountants who were deputed on war service from the office of the Deputy Accountant General, Posts and Telegraphs, Madras, were treated differently from others, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). No S.A.S. Accountants were deputed on war service from the office of the Deputy Accountant General, Posts and Telegraphs, Madras.

However, certain S.A.S. passed clerks were deputed during the war to different accounts and audit offices and, on return to their parent office, their pay was refixed after giving due consideration to the pay drawn and the duties and responsibilities of the posts held by them during deputation as compared to the corresponding posts in their parent office. As such the pay fixation was not uniform in all cases.

Shri Tangamani: The hon. Deputy Minister stated that no persons were deputed, but my information is otherwise. Anyway, what I would like to ask is, whether the pay of those who were deputed to Military Accounts

Office and Civil Accounts Office were fixed on the basis of the recommendations of the Pay Commission—that was in 1947—whereas the pay of those who were deputed to Supply Accounts Office and Defence Accounts Office were refixed at Rs. 30 less than what others were getting.

Mr. Speaker: Why was there this difference?

Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha: The main ground for issuing these special orders for the offices which the hon. Member mentioned was that there should not be any advantage after the reversion of persons in their parent offices and they should not retain any advantages over the persons already working in the parent offices—they should not be in any advantageous position when they come back to their parent offices over those who have put in similar length of service.

Shri Tangamani: There were a number of audit persons who were deputed to military service and when they were returned, out of 12 persons we find that 6 of them got a particular scale and in the case of the other six the pay is fixed at a different rate. I want to know why there is this sort of discrimination.

Mr. Speaker: In such matters I would like hon. Members to bring specific cases.....

Shri Tangamani: I have got the names.

Mr. Speaker: Not now. The hon. Minister will then enquire into the matter and supply the information at some other time.

Rajasthan Capital

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*338. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to reply given to Starred Question No. 641 on the 3rd March, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the report of the Rajasthan Capital Enquiry Committee has since been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the decisions taken thereon?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). The Rajasthan Government have considered the report of the Rajasthan Capital Enquiry Committee and have accepted the recommendations of the Committee in their entirety.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know whether the Central Government has given any direction or advice in this matter; if so, what?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I was approached by the Chief Minister, and I advised him to accept the recommendations as they were.

Shri Vajpayee: In view of the fact that Benches of various High Courts are functioning in several States, notwithstanding the recommendations contained in the interim report submitted by the Law Commission, may I know the reasons due to which the Jaipur Bench of Rajasthan High Court had been singled out for abolition?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The integration of the various States of Rajasthan followed by the integration of Ajmer-Rajasthan gave rise to certain problems as to where the capital should be situated, whether the Bench should be located, whether the two High Courts, that is, the principal High Court and the Bench should be amalgamated and there should be only one unified High Court, and whether any offices should be transferred from one place to the other. To consider these questions a Committee was appointed under the chairmanship of Justice Satyanarayana Rao and that Committee after considering these questions in all their aspects recommended that the capital should remain at Jaipur, that there should be only one unified High Court and it should be located at Jodhpur, and that certain offices should be transferred

from Jaipur to Ajmer. So, in consequence of the recommendations of this Committee, this decision was taken.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know if it is not a fact that the decision to abolish the Jaipur Bench has given rise to an agitation in Jaipur and, if so, will the Government consider the desirability of advising the Rajasthan Government to reconsider its decision.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I am sorry that there has been some agitation, and I wish that the sponsors of the agitation and the people who have taken part in it had dealt with the matter in a more sober and sedate way. The decisions taken by the Government are not to be upset, if they are right, simply because there is an agitation.

Oil India (Private) Ltd.

*340. **Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state the work undertaken by the Oil India (Private) Limited since its formation?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): The Oil India (Private) Limited has not yet been formally incorporated. Pending incorporation, drilling for oil has been intensified and preparatory actions to lay a crude oil pipeline have been taken.

Shri Supakar: May I know if the area of operation of this company is confined to Assam only, or will it take up exploration and investigation operations throughout India?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: It is confined to Assam only.

Shri Supakar: I understand, Sir, that another company known as the Oil Refineries (Private) Limited, is going to be established. May I know if there is any difference of function between the two companies, or the only difference is that this is a semi-public company whereas the Oil Refinery company that is going to take shape is an exclusively public company?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): No, Sir; there is something more than what is suggested by the hon. Member. So far as Oil India (Private) Limited, is concerned, that is a concern whose duty it will be, and whose function it will be to produce oil from the oil wells. In this Oil India (Private) Limited, Government are owners to the tune of one-third and B.O.C. and Assam Oil Company will own two-third of the shares. It is essentially a company which will produce crude oil and transport it to the refinery point. The other company will be in charge of the setting up and running of the oil refineries

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: May I know whether there was any specific time limit fixed when these areas of Moran and Hugrijan were leased out to Assam Oil Company for exploration?

Sardar Swaran Singh: In all these mining leases, according to the statute and according to statutory rules, certain time limits are prescribed. As to what was the exact number of years in this case, I can't say; if a separate question is tabled, I will give that information

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know if the Government are not appointing an official to be chairman of Oil India Ltd., and, if so, what is the reason for it?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Government are still considering the question of finding a suitable Chairman for the Refineries Ltd.

Shri Dasappa: May I know why Government have thought it fit to retain only one-third of the shares and not at least 51 per cent of the shares in this company?

Sardar Swaran Singh: There is no question of retaining these shares. So far as the Assam Oil Company and the B.O.C. are concerned, they were given

concessions, they searched oil and out of the 43 wells that have been completed there are 29, including six gas producers, which have proved successful. The question then arose as to what should be the arrangement for producing oil from these oil wells. So, by this agreement, Government have really secured a participation in the capital structure; otherwise, normally, the oil company could have the oil-producing activity all to itself.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know if the Government has considered the distribution aspect of the oil that is going to be refined, and what arrangements they have in mind for the same?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Government is still considering that question; because it will take several years for refined products to be produced, there is enough time for that.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: What is the area of operation of this Oil India (Private) Limited? Will it be confined, more or less, to Naharkatiya, or will it extend to elsewhere, to Assam or even outside?

Sardar Swaran Singh: That question, I think, was answered by my colleague, the Parliamentary Secretary. Oil India (Private) Ltd. is primarily concerned with the production and transport of crude oil from areas with regard to which the Assam Oil Company hold the concessions for searching for oil and for prospecting for oil.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know whether it is the Barauni refinery that was going to be under the Oil Refineries (Private) Ltd. or whether it will also be under Oil India (Private) Ltd.?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I thought I had clarified the position. So far as Oil India (Private) Ltd. is concerned, it has got no concern with the refineries that are going to be set up. The Government's decision is that the refineries will be in the public sector with the collaboration, technical or otherwise, of the appropriate parties. Generally, those parties are likely to be foreign parties. So, the organisation and the management of the refineries will be the concern separate from Oil India (Private) Ltd., because the function of Oil India (Private) Ltd. is to produce crude oil and to transport oil, to the Refinery points.

Nickel-less Stainless Steel

*342. **Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final decision has been taken on the semi-commercial production of nickel-less stainless steel as evolved by the National Metallurgical Laboratory; and

(b) if not, when a final decision will be taken?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): (a) and (b) Provision will be made in the Alloy and Tool Steel Plant proposed to be set up in the public sector, to roll nickel-free stainless steel sheets.

Shri Damani: May I know whether negotiations with any foreign companies are going on?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Yes, Sir. Proposals have come from four foreign countries for the establishment of alloy and nickel free stainless steel.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know whether it is a fact that in the opinion of certain experts, the Bhadravati Steel Works is a very appropriate place for setting up this plant for the introduction of nickel-free stainless steel and, if so, what is the reaction of the Government to such a proposal?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): The opinion of experts will receive due consideration when we are finalising

the proposal. But I cannot recall any specific expert opinion and experts do not always agree.

Shri Damani: May I know where this plant is going to be located, and what will be the capital outlay and capacity of production?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I would request the hon. Member to wait a little. He is asking about the details with regard to a project in regard to which we are in a preliminary stage at the present moment.

सरकारी निवृत्ति-वेतन भोक्ता

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३४४. { श्री नवल प्रभाकर :
श्री भक्त दर्शन :
श्री बलवन्त सिंह :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि १५ जुलाई, १९५२ से पूर्व सेवा निवृत होने वाले सरकारी निवृत्ति वेतन भोक्ताओं (पेन्शनरों) को कुछ अन्तरिम सहायता दी गई है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन लोगों को अन्तरिम सहायता क्यों नहीं दी गई जो उस तिथि के बाद सेवा निवृत्त हुये ?

वित्त उपमंत्री (श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा) : (क) सरकारी निवृत्ति-वेतन भोक्ताओं (पेन्शनरों) को 'अन्तरिम सहायता' नाम से तो कोई सहायता नहीं दी गई लेकिन १ जनवरी, १९४५ से ला पेंशन की अस्थायी वृद्धि की दरों में १ अप्रैल, १९५८ से, केन्द्रीय सरकार के उन निवृत्ति-वेतन-भोक्ता कर्मचारियों के लिये और वृद्धि कर दी गई है जो १५ जुलाई, १९५२ से पहले सेवा-निवृत्त हो चुके हैं और जिन्हें १०० पये प्रति मास तक पेंशन मिलती है ।

(ख) गाडगिल समिति की सिफारिशों को कार्यान्वित करने के परिणाम स्वरूप जो सरकारी कर्मचारी १५ जुलाई, १९५२ को अथवा उसके बाद सेवा-निवृत्त हुये उन्हें यह अधिकार प्राप्त हो गया कि उनकी पेंशन की रकम निर्धारित करते समय उनका आधा महंगाई भत्ता वेतन में शामिल कर लिया जाये । इसलिये जो व्यक्ति १५ जुलाई, १९५२ को या उसके बाद सेवा-निवृत्त हुये और जिनके मामले में वेतन में आधा महंगाई भत्ता शामिल कर लेने के कारण पेंशनें अधिक लाभदायक रहीं, उनके सम्बन्ध में अस्थायी वृद्धि की दरें वापिस ले ली गयीं । पेंशन के लिये आधे महंगाई भत्ते को वेतन मानने की सुविधा के बदले यदि इन कर्मचारियों को पेंशन की हाल ही में बढ़ी हुई दरों के अनुसार पेंशन दी जाती (जिसे निर्धारित करते समय आधा महंगाई भत्ता वेतन में नहीं जोड़ा जाता), तो भी उन्हें लाभ न होता । इसीलिये इन कर्मचारियों को अस्थायी रूप से बढ़ी हुई दरों के अनुसार पेंशन देना आवश्यक नहीं समझा गया ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that the All-India Pensioners' Association has submitted a memorandum to the Government for the revision of pensionary rules and may I know whether this matter has been referred to the Pay Commission for consideration?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: There were numerous representations that were received but mostly they were concerned with small pensioners who were not getting the benefit of the dearness allowance and who had retired before the Gadgil Committee's recommendation came. They were all examined and it is because of those representations that concessions were given to those who have retired before that period.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The last portion of the question has not been answered.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि यह जो पेंशन में बढ़ोतरी की गई है यह केवल कुछ वर्गों के लिये है या पक्के तौर से बढ़ोतरी कर दी गई है ?

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : जो बढ़ोतरी हुई है वह कुछ वर्गों के लिये नहीं है, बल्कि पक्के तौर पर है ।

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: May I know whether it is a fact that certain representations were received from the pensioners of State Governments who have requested the Central Government to advise the State Governments to adopt the same policy which the Central Government have adopted in giving interim relief as well as increase in dearness allowance and if the answer is yes, may I know the action taken by the Government?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I have the question again?

Mr. Speaker: The question is whether the Central Government have advised the State Governments to adopt the same policy with regard to the grant of this amount.

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): That is for the State Governments to consider.

Mr. Speaker: Have the Central Government sent the representations to them?

Shri Morarji Desai: They have been sent to them. They know their duties best.

श्री भक्त दर्शन: मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि यह जो पेंशन में बढ़ोतरी की गई है यह केवल सिविल कर्मचारियों के लिये है या फौजी कर्मचारी जो सेवा निवृत्त होते हैं उनको भी यह सुविधा दी जाती है ?

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : जिनके लिये ये सब रूल्स बने हुये हैं उन सभी कर्मचारियों के लिये यह पेंशन की दर लागू होगी ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether any decision has been taken by Government on referring the pensionary rules to the Pay Commission for a revision?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: I do not think so.

Shri Morarji Desai: The question of pensions has not been referred to the Pay Commission.

Quotas for Steel

*345. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Iron and Steel Controller has directed that in cases where supply of Steel against particular quota heads has exceeded allotments under the same but the overall supplies have not exceeded overall allotments the flow of steel will continue until the overall supply equals the quota of total allotment?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): Yes, Sir. The decision was taken by the Government.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether the supply of steel will be increased against the allotted quotas to States where the demand has increased?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Actually at the moment, steel is in short supply. Therefore, the question of increase of quotas for States to meet their entire demand is a matter which will have to wait till either the steel production increases or our foreign exchange position eases to enable us to import more steel.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Institute of Archaeology

*331. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to refer to reply given to Starred Question No. 1295 on the 28th March, 1958 and state at what stage is the scheme of opening an Institute of Archæology in New Delhi to train post-graduates in History and allied subjects in the field of Archæology?

The Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): The matter is still under consideration.

Retirement Age in Collieries

*334. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain categories of weekly paid workmen like Hookmen, Onsetters etc. in the State Collieries are made to retire at the age of 55;

(b) whether it is a fact that the general age of superannuation in State Collieries is 60;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Conciliation Board Award of 1946 is also applicable to Hookmen, Onsetters etc; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The category of weekly paid workers who are required to retire at the age of 55 are those recruited prior to the 1st June, 1944, when the collieries were under the control and management of the Railways. These persons are still governed by the Railway rules, though, after the transfer of these collieries first to the former Supply Department of the Government of India with effect from the 1st June, 1944 and, later still, to the Ministry of Production and the National Coal Development Corporation (Private) Limited respectively, they have ceased to be Railway servants.

(b) It is a fact that the age of superannuation has been fixed at 60 years in the case of weekly paid workers recruited after the 1st June, 1944. This is because these persons are governed by the civil rules which provide for the higher age of superannuation for all Class IV employees of Government and others holding comparable posts.

(c) Yes. The Conciliation Board Award of 1946 has, however, been modified in terms of the awards of the All India Industrial Tribunal and the Appellate Tribunal.

(d) Government are examining whether the weekly paid workers recruited prior to the 1st June, 1944 can also have their age of retirement fixed at 60 years.

International Finance Corporation

*341. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) which are the industries in the Private Sector with which the International Finance Corporation has agreed to cooperate; and

(b) what further steps have been taken to invite greater co-operation of the Private Sector with the International Finance Corporation?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) It is presumed that the Hon. Member seeks information on the actual investments made in India in the private sector by the IFC. No such investments have as yet been made though it is understood that a number of applications from India are under examination with the IFC.

(b) Since the IFC has the specific objective of dealing with private enterprise directly, intends to give its loans on the basis of a detailed scrutiny of each applicant's project

and does not seek any special facilities by way of a Government guarantee of repayment of any of its investments no special steps are necessary.

Revision of Steel Retention Prices

*343. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the number of times when steel retention prices have been revised by Government of India since the commencement of the First Five Year Plan;

(b) what was the prevailing steel price before the price was first revised and what is the latest revised price; and

(c) what is the total amount received by the steel producers on the differentials on each revision?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Seven times in the case of M/s Tata Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., nine times in the case of M/s Indian Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., and four times in the case of Mysore Iron & Steel Works Ltd.

(b) The average steel retention prices before the first revision and at present are as follows:—

Tatas	Rs. 251	Rs. 405
Indian Iron & Steel Co.	Rs. 273	Rs. 405
Mysore Iron and Steel Works Ltd.	Rs. 308	Rs. 405

Tatas and Indian Iron have also been given a provisional increase of Rs. 46/- per ton in retention prices from 16-5-57. This will be finalised on the basis of the Tariff Commission's recommendations which are under consideration.

(c) Approximately Rs. 24·71 crores were received by M/s. Tata Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rs. 10·14 crores by M/s. Indian Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., and Rs. 55·11 lakhs by M/s. Mysore Iron & Steel Works.

Production in Ordnance Factories

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*346. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether production in Ordnance Factories has increased during 1958 so far;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) whether workers' representatives have been associated with the production programme in Ordnance Factories?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the basis of provisional figures available for the first quarter of 1958, the increase in production over the corresponding period of last year is approximately 17 per cent.

(c) The production programme is made out by the Factory management on the basis of demands from the Services, the civil orders and the capacity of the Factory. The production programmes are not drawn up in consultation with workers' representatives but they are kept informed of production activities in each factory through the Production Committee consisting of representatives of workers and management.

Loan to Orissa

*347. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to a supplementary question on Starred Question No. 1399 on the 2nd April, 1958, in respect of new capital, Bhubaneswar, Orissa and state:

(a) whether the request of the State Government for a loan of Rs. 61·75 lakhs has been conceded by Government; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). An overall sum of Rs. 350 lakhs has been sanctioned to the

Government of Orissa during 1957-58 and 1958-59 as loan assistance towards expenditure incurred during 1957-58 on the Miscellaneous Development Schemes of the State, including the construction of the new capital, Bhubaneswar.

Life Insurance Corporation

*348. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**
Shri Damani:
Shri Aniruddh Sinha:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reportedly increasing difficulty and delay in settlement of policy holders' claims, loan applications etc. by the Life Insurance Corporation;

(b) whether Government's attention has also been drawn to the irregularity on the part of the Corporation in sending premium notices and receipts; and

(c) if so, the nature of steps taken?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). It would appear that consequent upon the integration of over 200 Life Insurance companies into the Life Insurance Corporation, there has been some difficulty in the initial stages in the settlement of policy-holders' claims, loan applications and issue of premium notices and receipts. Government are not aware of any increase in such difficulties. They are, however, concerned with such difficulties as exist in the way of the policy-holders and are anxious that ways and means should be found for their removal as early as possible.

(c) With a view to correcting any complaints of procedural irregularities the Corporation has decided upon a judicious decentralisation of powers so as to vest officers at all levels with adequate powers to deal effectively with such complaints.

Import of Stainless Steel

*349. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of workers in various stainless steel factories in India have been thrown out of employment on account of the recent restriction on the import of stainless steel sheets; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) One or two factories have reported that owing to shortage of materials, their factories will have to be closed or slowed down.

(b) Unless more foreign exchange resources are available, it will be difficult to increase import of stainless steel.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में पंचायतघर

*३५० श्री नाथ देव : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री १५ अप्रैल, १९५८ के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २४३० के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में हिमाचल प्रदेश में पंचायतघरों के निर्माण के लिये प्राय-व्ययक कुछ राशि रखी गई थी ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष १९५७-५८ में कोई पंचायतघर न बनाने के क्या कारण है ?

गृह कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री बालाराव) : (क) जी हां । इस काम के लिये दूसरी पंच साला योजना में चार

लाख रुपये रखे गये हैं जो इस प्रकार खर्च किये जायेंगे :—

साल	रकम
१९५७–५८	२० पंचायतघरों के लिये एक लाख रुपये
१९५८–५९	" "
१९५९–६०	" "
१९६०–६१	" "

(ख) १९५७–५८ में ३८ पंचायतों को अपने अपने पंचायतघर बनाने के लिये १,९०,००० रुपये दिये गये लेकिन चूंकि उन्हें ये ग्रान्ट देरी से अर्थात् मार्च, १९५८ के आखीर में दी गई थी, इसलिये वे इस रकम को उस साल में काम नहीं ला सकीं : इसी वजह से १९५७–५८ में पंचायतघर नहीं बनाये जा सके । सम्बन्धित नियमानुसार पंचायतें इस रकम को साल भर के भीतर काम में ला सकती हैं । अतः आशा है कि यह ग्रान्ट चालू वर्ष में काम में ले ली जायेगी ।

Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur and Delhi Polytechnic

*351. **Shri Kodiyan:** Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students admitted in the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur and the Delhi Polytechnic in 1957-58, separately;

(b) the total number of seats reserved in these institutions for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 1957-58, separately;

(c) whether all the reserved seats have been filled up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix II, annexuhe No. 82].

Teaching of English

*352. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Shivananjappa:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has prepared a scheme for giving special grants to universities for improving the standard of English teaching;

(b) which universities have so far taken advantage of this scheme; and

(c) total financial assistance given so far?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Central Government Advocates in City Civil Court, Calcutta

*353. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are two retained advocates in the City Civil Court in Calcutta appointed by the Government of India for conducting suits and cases on its behalf;

(b) if so, what are the terms and conditions of their appointment;

(c) whether it is a fact that in West Bengal, Government pleaders and public prosecutors appointed by the Government of West Bengal are also ex-officio Government pleaders and public prosecutors of the Government of India; and

(d) if so, what is the reason for separate appointment of advocates in the Civil Court?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix II, annexure No. 83].

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Australian Help for Steel Industry

*354. **Shri Assar:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Australian Government are willing to help Indian Steel Industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In 1957 the Australian Government offered facilities under the Colombo Plan for training of six engineers in the steel works. They are also willing to provide such facilities under the Colombo Plan to train 24 engineers every six months for the period of 3 to 4 years in the Broken Hill Proprietary Company, Australia.

Writings of Maulana Azad

*356. **Shri Shivananjappa:**
Shri Hem Raj:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state the steps taken by the Sahitya Akadami to undertake the work of collection and securing copies of all writings of the late Maulana Azad with a view to publish them?

The Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): The Sahitya Akademi has appointed a Committee for collecting and editing complete writings of Maulana Azad.

Coal

*357. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a considerable quantity of coal is being wasted at the Jharia fields and the collieries round about Asansol by spontaneous fires;

(b) if so, the estimated quantity of coal that is so wasted; and

(c) what measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken to extinguish the fire by blanketing by sand or water etc?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) to (c). A statement furnishing the information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix II, annexure No. 84.]

I.A.S. (Special) Recruitment

*358. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that 102 I.A.S. candidates recently selected are not being absorbed immediately?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Under the Special Recruitment Scheme, the U.P.S.C. published a list of 102 candidates selected by them from the open market who, they considered, were suitable for filling up vacancies in the I.A.S. cadres of various States. On the basis of vacancies available at present, offers of appointment have been sent to 72 candidates from this list and the Central Government are in correspondence with the State Governments for the absorption of the remaining candidates.

Intelligence Bureau

*359. **Shri Mohammed Imam:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a branch of the Central Intelligence Bureau has been stationed at Bangalore (Mysore State);

(b) what are its functions;

(c) whether any report concerning the administration in Mysore has been sent by it; and

(d) if so, whether it will be placed on the Table of the House?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) Collection of intelligence of security interest.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Central Foreigners' Bureau

*360. **Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to establish a Central Foreigners' Bureau; and

(b) if so, whether the activities of the Bureau will apply to the citizens of British Commonwealth countries also?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) The Bureau is intended to keep records and statistics of all persons coming into and leaving India.

Gurukul Universities' Diplomas

*361. **Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that diplomas of the Gurukul Universities of Kangri, Hardwar and Vrindaban have been given recognition for the purpose of employment in services and posts under the Central Government for one year only;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether similar recognition has been given to diplomas of any other national institution?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). These diplomas have been recognised provisionally with effect from 18th September, 1951. This recognition will be valid till 17th September 1959, pending recognition of these Universities by the University Grants Commission. Once the Commission recognises these Universities, their degrees/diplomas would be automatically recognised.

(c) Yes. These institutions are:

1. Prayag Mahila Vidyapith, Allahabad.
2. Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi.
3. Kashi Vidyapith, Banaras.

Devaluation of Rupee

*362. **Shri N. R. Munisamy:**
Shri Kalika Singh:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any truth in the persistent circulation of the news regarding proposed devaluation of rupee; and

(b) if so, when and why the rupee will be devalued?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Political Sufferers

*363. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision in regard to grant of educational concessions to dependents of political sufferers; and

(b) if so, the nature of decision?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) Special consideration will be shown in the matter of admissions and awards of freeships and half-freeships in all recognised primary, basic, middle and high schools;

(ii) Free seats will be provided in hostels, attached to the recognised schools and colleges, and

(iii) A limited number of stipends and book grants will be given to scholars from the primary to the post-graduate levels.

These concessions will be restricted to the children of political sufferers whose income does not exceed Rs. 300 per month. Details are being worked out.

Kerala Chief Minister's Statement

*364. **Shri Maniyangadan:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Mohammed Imam:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Kerala made a statement that there will be civil war if the opposition parties in Kerala join together and form a united front;

(b) whether Government are aware that the statement has created fear and anxiety among the public and among workers of political parties based on democratic principles; and

(c) what steps, if any are being taken by Government to allay such fears?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) I have not seen the text of the speech. As stated by the Chief Minister of Kerala, the report that was published in the papers was not complete and did not give a correct impression of what he said.

(b) Such feelings have been expressed by certain persons and organisations.

(c) The Government of India have not taken any action. There was some correspondence between the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister of Kerala.

Stadium in Manipur

*365. **Shri Narayanan Kutty Menon:**
Shri Warior:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct a Sports Stadium in Manipur; and

(b) if so, where and when will the construction work begin?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). The Manipur Administration proposed in June 1957 to construct a Sports Stadium in Manipur but this was not approved by the Government of India.

Palana Colliery

*366. **Shri Karni Singhji:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any committee of technical experts has been appointed to report on open cast system of lignite mining at Palana Colliery in the Bikaner District of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, whether the report submitted by the committee would be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes.

(b) This will be considered after the Government have received the Committee's report.

List of Scheduled Castes in Mysore

*367. **Shri Siddiah:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3301 on the 6th May, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the Mysore Government have since sent their recommendations for exclusion from the list of Scheduled Castes such of the communities as did not suffer from the stigma of untouchability; and

(b) if so, action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

Indian Science Congress

*368. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 46th Indian Science Congress is likely to meet in Delhi in January, 1959;

(b) whether invitations have been issued to foreign countries to send their scientists to attend this session; and

(c) if so, the names of the countries and the number of scientists invited?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II annexure No. 85.]

Manufacture of Alloy and Special Steels

*369. **Shri V. C. Shukla:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1090 on the 20th March, 1958, and state:

(a) whether the detailed project reports in connection with the establishment of a plant for the manufacture of alloy and special steels have since been called for and received from the foreign firms concerned; and

(b) what further progress has been made in the matter?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No, Sir. Not yet.

(b) Specifications have been just finalised. Detailed project reports will be invited on the basis of these broad specifications.

Training of Teachers in Engineering and Technology

*370. **Shri Subodh Hansda:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the selection of teachers for training in U.S.S.R. under UNESCO-Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance in different branches of Engineering and Technology for the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, has been finalised;

(b) if so, when they would be sent to U.S.S.R.?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Four teachers, out of six to be trained in the U.S.S.R. under the 1958 Programme, have been selected and are expected to go to U.S.S.R. in October, 1958.

दिल्ली में चलते फिरते दल

*३७१. **श्री मोहन स्वरूप:** क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में बेतार के तार से सज्जित चलते-फिरते नौ स्क्वैड गश्त पर लगाने का विचार है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस योजना पर कितना खर्च होने का अनुमान है और कितने पदाधिकारी भर्ती किये जायेंगे ;

(ग) दिल्ली में ऐसे चलते-फिरते स्क्वैड कब से काम करने लगेंगे ; और

(घ) इस योजना का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दातार) : (क) से (घ). इन सवालों पर विचार हो रहा है ।

Project Report on Durgapur Steel Project

*372. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received detailed final project report

on Durgapur Steel Project;

(b) how far the reports on the three Steel Projects compare so far as technical information is concerned; and

(c) the fees paid for the three reports separately?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The detailed specifications for the Durgapur Steel Project, which correspond to a detailed project report, were received in June/July 1956. Subject to the differences flowing from the difference in arrangements for construction of the three steel plants, the project reports all give detailed information of a comparable character.

(c) No separate fees were paid for the detailed project reports

Research

*373. **Shri V. P. Nayar**: Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken any steps whereby the State Governments could refer the difficult problems which they may confront in their industries and for the solution of which necessary research facilities do not exist in such states, to the National Research Institutes/Laboratories functioning under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research; and

(b) how have the State Governments taken advantage of this facility?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments have, whenever they have considered it necessary, referred their industrial problems for advice or for investigation to the National Laboratories.

Production of Sound Projectors

*374. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1415 on the 2nd April, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the market survey has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any final decision regarding the manufacture of 35 mm. Sound Projectors in the Ordnance Factories; and

(d) if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Child Lifting

*375 **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have completed the study of existing laws to determine whether they are adequate for coping with child-lifting and the specific problem of children being mutilated;

(b) if so, the results of the study; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) to (c). The matter is under consideration. Government have reached certain conclusions and State Governments are being consulted.

Industrial Management Cadre

*376. **Shri Damani:**
Shri Ram Krishan:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 3669 of the 9th May, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the interviews of candidates for appointments to the Industrial Management Cadre have been completed by the U.P.S.C.; and

(b) whether final selections have been made?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) Interviews are still in progress, and are likely to be completed shortly.

(b) Selections will be made thereafter.

Petroleum Products

*377. **Shri Tangamani:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:
Shri Kalika Singh:
Shri Jinachandran:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to economise in the import of petroleum products; and

(b) if so, what are the proposals and the reasons for such measures?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Certain proposals to economise in the import of Petroleum products are currently being considered by the Government.

(b) It will not be in public interest to disclose the details of the proposals at this stage.

जामा मस्जिद

*३७८. श्री नवल प्रभाकर :
श्री भक्त दर्शन :
सरदार इकबाल सिंह :

क्या वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा और सांस्कृतिक कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जामा मस्जिद की मुरम्मत के लिये आगरा, जयपुर तथा जोधपुर से कई राज बुलाये गये हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इनकी संख्या कितनी है ;

(ग) जामा मस्जिद के किस भाग की मुरम्मत होगी ;

(घ) इस पर कितना व्यय होगा ; और

(ङ) मस्जिद की मुरम्मत में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान तथा सांस्कृतिक कार्य मंत्री (श्री हुमायुन् कबिर) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) और (घ). माननीय सदस्यों का ध्यान प्रश्न संख्या १९०, १८ अगस्त, १९५८ को दिये गये जवाब की ओर दिलाया जाता है ।

(ङ) अंदाजन ६४ प्रतिशत काम पूरा हो गया है ।

Steel Production

*379. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether steel production in the country has fallen during 1958;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) whether the rate of production is satisfactory to meet the present

requirements of the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A fall of about 33,000 tons in the first half of 1958.

(c) No, Sir.

केन्द्रीय भारतीय औषधीय जड़ी बूटी संगठन

*३८० श्री पद्म देव क्या वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा और सांस्कृतिक कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि केन्द्रीय भारतीय औषधीय जड़ी बूटी संगठन कब तक स्थापित किया जायेगा ?

वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान और सांस्कृतिक कार्य मंत्री (श्री हुमायुन् कबिर) . उम्मीद है कि सिम्पोया (केन्द्रीय भारतीय औषधीय जड़ी बूटी संगठन) दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान में स्थापित हो जायेगा ।

Kerosene Oil from Rumania

*381. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty**
Shri Sadhan Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rumanian Government have offered to sell to India Kerosene Oil and High Speed Diesel Oil at much lower rates than the present prices paid by India; and

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the offer?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b) The Government of Rumania have offered to supply Kerosene Oil and High Speed Diesel Oil which is under examination It will not be in the public interest to disclose the details of the offer at this stage.

Technical Personnel Requirements

*382. **Shri Shivananjappa:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a detailed study of the technical personnel requirements of the major industrial projects in the public sector will be soon made by the Manpower Directorate of the Ministry of Home Affairs in co-operation with other Ministries;

(b) if so, when this study will be made; and

(c) the details thereof?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) to (c) Such studies are made from time to time when new projects are taken up. Detailed studies have already been made of the manpower requirements of the steel plants in the public sector and the Heavy Electrical Equipment Plant Similar studies in respect of other major projects are now in progress in different Ministries.

Civil Engineering Works at Rourkela

*383. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that certain equipment has been hired from West Germany for purpose of civil engineering works in connection with the rolling mills at Rourkela;

(b) if so, the type of equipment; and

(c) the amount of rent payable for this equipment?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Excavators, Pumps, Iron Cutting Machines, Iron Bending Machines, Concrete Mixers, Electrical Saws, Compressors, Vibrators, Crawler Shovels, Truck Mounted Cranes, Turning Lathe, Drilling Machines, Grinding Machines etc.

(c) (i) 3.25 per cent. per month of the purchase value for equipment in operation.

(ii) 1.7 per cent. per month of the purchase value for periods of idleness.

High Court Judges

*384. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the number of High Court Judges appointed (High Court-wise) since the 1st April, 1958; and

(b) the number out of them appointed from outside the State?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 86.]

Banaras Hindu University

*385. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Naval Prabhakar:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Kalika Singh:
Shri Kumaran:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Supakar:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have examined the Report of the Mudaliar Enquiry Committee regarding Banaras Hindu University;

(b) steps taken so far or proposed to be taken to implement the recommendations of the Committee; and

(c) the nature of improvements effected in the administration and working of the University since the promulgation of the Banaras Hindu University (Amendment) Ordinance, 1958?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 87.]

Delhi Schools

*386. **Shri Tangamani:**
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the provision for construction of pucca buildings for schools in Delhi during the Second Plan period; and

(b) how many new schools have been constructed as part of the Second Plan in Delhi upto date?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Rs. 139.20 lakhs.

(b) Three till March 1958 and another 27 are expected to be completed by December 1958.

नया हिन्दी व्याकरण

*३८७. **श्री नवल प्रभाकर**
श्री भक्त दर्शन :

क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने आधुनिक हिन्दी का मूल व्याकरण प्रकाशित किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इसे हिन्दी के लब्धप्रतिष्ठित विद्वानों को उनके विचार जानने के लिये भेजा गया था ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उन्होंने क्या विचार व्यक्त किये हैं ; और

(घ) यह व्याकरण किन किन भाषाओं में प्रकाशित किया गया है अथवा किया जाने वाला है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री डा० का० ला० (श्रीमाली): (क) हां। व्याकरण अंग्रेजी में प्रकाशित हो चुका है।

(ख) नहीं, क्योंकि यह व्याकरण इस उद्देश्य से नियुक्त विशेषज्ञ समिति द्वारा ही तैयार किया गया है। फिर भी प्रसिद्ध हिन्दी विद्वानों की सम्मतियां मांगी जा रही हैं।

(ग) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

(घ) इसका हिन्दी रूपान्तर तैयार हो रहा है, और अन्तिम रूप से तैयार होते ही वह प्रकाशित कर दिया जायेगा। उसे किसी अन्य प्रादेशिक भाषा में प्रकाशित करने का अभी कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

Superannuated Officers

*388. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of superannuated officers re-employed in Central Government during the year 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far;

(b) whether any condition is laid down for their re-employment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) and (c). Superannuated officers are re-employed for such time as is found necessary, subject to their continuing to be efficient. Their tenure is terminable on one month's notice.

Industrial Employees

*389. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether separate Service Conduct Rules are being framed to govern the industrial employees under the Central Government; and

(b) if so, the nature of steps taken so far in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration.

Mining Corporation

*390. **Shri V. C. Shukla:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the possibilities of setting up of a State Mining Corporation for the export of iron ore to Japan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

दिल्ली में लड़कियों के कालेज

*३९१. श्री पद्म देव : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली में सरकारी तथा गैर-सरकारी संस्थाओं द्वारा अलग-अलग लड़कियों के कितने कालेज चलाये जा रहे हैं ;

(ख) क्या सरकार को यह ज्ञात है कि बहुत सी लड़कियों को कालेजों में प्रवेश नहीं मिल पाता है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार इस कठिनाई को दूर करने के लिये किसी योजना पर विचार कर रही है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो वह क्या है ; और

(ङ) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (ग) का उत्तर नकारात्मक हो, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली): (क) से (ङ). विवरण सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट २, अनुबन्ध संख्या ५८]

दिल्ली में बर्फ की कीमत

६५७. श्री मोहन स्वरूप : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में गर्मियों के महीनों में बर्फ की कीमत चढ़ जाती है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) गर्मी के महीनों में उपभोक्ताओं को सस्ते दामों पर बर्फ मिल सके, इसके लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्री (पंडित गो० ब० पन्त): (क) जी हां, आमतौर से ऐसा ही होता है।

(ख) बर्फ का व्यापार मौसिमी होता है। बर्फ की कीमत उसकी रसद और मांग पर निर्भर करती है। गरमी के दिनों में बर्फ की मांग बढ़ जाती है और इसीलिये उसकी कीमत भी आमतौर से बढ़ जाती है।

(ग) बर्फ की समस्या बहुत मामली होने के कारण उसकी बिक्री, वितरण, कीमत और उसको इकट्ठा करके रखने पर कोई कंट्रोल नहीं है। इसके व्यापार को रेग्युलेट करने के लिये कोई खास उपाय करने की जरूरत नजर नहीं आती।

Fabricating Shop at Durgapur

658. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has now been taken to set up a steel fabricating shop at Durgapur;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The proposal has been deferred for the time being because of the difficult foreign exchange position.

"Sainik Samachar"

659. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent annually on the publication of "Sainik Samachar";

(b) the number of staff employed on this publication; and

(c) its monthly circulation?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) The total net amount spent in 1957-58 including expenditure on the editorial and other staff was Rs. 4,52,218.

(b) 65.

(c) The number of copies circulated weekly, i.e. per issue, is a little over 10,000. Many of these copies go to Unit messes and libraries. The number of readers is therefore much larger.

Family Maintenance Remittances to India

660. { Shri Damani; / Sardar Iqbal Singh;

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Pakistan have decided to reduce family maintenance remittances to India sent by Indian Nationals residing in Pakistan;

(b) if so, the nature of reduction; and

(c) what is the attitude of the Government of India towards sending such remittances to Pakistan?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Government have no information.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government do not contemplate any change in the existing limit of Rs. 50 per month.

Surplus Stores in Ordnance Depots

661. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state the value of surplus stores auctioned in various Ordnance Depots during 1956-57 and 1957-58?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): The value of surplus stores auctioned in various Ordnance Depots during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58, is as follows:—

YEAR

	1956-57	1957-58
	Rs.	Rs.
Book Value:	1045 lakhs	921 lakhs
Sale Value:	218 lakhs	253 lakhs

Projects in U.P.

663. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total amount sanctioned for various projects in U.P. during 1958-59?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): Under the revised procedure of Central assistance to States for Development Schemes indicated in the answer to Starred Question No. 191 on the 18th instant, Central assistance to U.P. for their development schemes during 1958-59 will be sanctioned by the various Administrative Ministries in respect of the projects with which they are concerned only during the latter half of February, 1959.

Teachers in Government Basic Schools in Delhi

664. Shri Vasudevan Nair: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3354 on the 6th May, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the rest of the teachers in Government Basic Schools in Delhi have been made permanent; and

(b) if not, how long it will take to complete the formalities required for confirmation?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Not yet.

(b) Efforts are being made to complete the formalities as early as possible.

Commissions and Committees under the Ministry

665. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the names of Commissions and Committees which worked under the Ministry of Education during the period from 1st April to 31st July, 1958?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix II, annexure 89.]

Secondary Education in Bombay

666 Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the amount allocated to the Government of Bombay for reconstruction of Secondary Education during 1957-58?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): Rs. 35,73,751.

Employees in National Physical Laboratory

667. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state the number of employees promoted from Class IV to III and from Class III to Class II in National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi during 1957-58 and upto 1st June, 1958?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): Number of promotions for the period from 1st January, 1957 to 1st June, 1958:—

From Class IV to Class III—25

From Class III to Class II—8

Industrial Employees in M.E.S.

668. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Industrial employees in M.E.S. confirmed upto 1st June, 1958;

(b) the number yet to be confirmed; and

(c) the reasons for their not being confirmed?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) 6893

(b) 1652.

(c) Confirmation of individuals is pending—

(i) determination of the direct line of promotion in certain categories of Industrial personnel; and

(ii) non-availability of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates.

Civilian Employees in Defence Establishments

669. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state.

(a) the number of civilian employees in Defence Establishments getting less than Rs. 100 p.m.; and

(b) the number of such employees getting more than Rs. 100 p.m?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) 2,12,413 on 1-10-1957.

(b) 43,539 on 1-10-1957

Information upto 1-7-1958 is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha when it is available fully.

Industrial Employees in Defence Establishments

670. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Class I, II, III and IV industrial employees in Defence Establishments suffering from T.B. as on the 1st June, 1958; and

(b) the number of them sent to sanatoria?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha as soon as it is available.

संघ लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा भर्ती

६७१. **श्री क० भें० मालवीय** : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) १९५६-५७ और १९५७-५८ में संघ लोक सेवा आयोग ने प्रत्येक मंत्रालय के कुल कितने पदों का साक्षात्कार (इंटरव्यू) द्वारा भर्ती करने के लिये विज्ञापन दिया था ;

(ख) उक्त पदों के लिये प्रत्येक मंत्रालय में कितने ऐसे उम्मीदवार चुने गये, जो विज्ञापित पदों पर पहले ही से काम कर रहे थे ; और

(ग) उनमें से ऐसे (प्रत्येक मंत्रालय में) कितने हैं जिन्होंने साक्षात्कार की तिथि तक उसी पद पर एक साल से अधिक सेवा की हुई थी ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) : (क) से (ग) मांगी हुई सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और जितनी जल्दी हो सकेगी वह सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Reservation of Seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

672. **Shri Siddiah:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 3068 on the 1st May, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the question of reservation of seats for students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Central Institute of

Education, Delhi has been finally settled; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). The matter is still under consideration.

Air accident near Hoshiarpur

673. **Shri Ram Krishan:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Court of Inquiry appointed to enquire into the causes of air crash of a Toofani aircraft near Hoshiarpur on the 8th May, 1958 has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) and (b) Yes Flg Off D S Bajaj, pilot of the Toofani aircraft, which was involved in an army co-operation exercise on 8th May, 1958 The accident has been found to be due to a slight error of judgment on the part of the pilot

Russian Credit for Bhilai Steel Plant

674 **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state

(a) the total amount of debt secured from Russia for Bhilai Steel Plant which is at present outstanding; and

(b) the date of repayment?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) U S.S.R. supplies the main plant and equipment and 60,000 tons of structural steel work of the value of Rs 630 76 million on credit repayable in twelve equal annual instalments, interest being at 2½% per annum. Similarly expenditure on training Engineers and technicians in the U S.S.R. may be repaid in twelve annual instalments Upto the end of July, 1958, supplies worth Rs. 350 million have been received Rs. 14·23 million, towards capital, and Rs. 1·47 million, as interest, have been paid to the Government of U.S.S.R.

(b) Credit is raised on delivery of each consignment C.I.F. and is payable on or before the 15th day of March of each and every year, following the year in which each such credit is raised. Interest is payable from the date each particular credit is raised. As the supplies are to be made during 1956—59, the last instalment of capital and interest will be repaid by the 15th March, 1971.

Panjore Garden and Kutab Minar

675. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on the maintenance of the following during 1957-58:—

(i) Panjore Garden in Punjab,

(ii) Qutab Minar, Delhi; and

(b) the amount proposed to be spent during 1958-59?

The Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) (i) Rs 8,558·31.

(ii) Rs 7,128

(b) (i) Rs 10,340

(ii) Rs 6,000

Coal Washeries

676. **Shri Ram Krishan:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for setting up four coal washeries with a view to conserving metallurgical coal during the Second Five Year Plan period has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The requirements of washed coals for the three new steel plants in the public sector and the expanded steel plants in the private sector are estimated at about nine million tons.

Of this, the 500-ton washery, which is being set up at Kargali by the National Coal Development Corporation, is to supply 1·1 million tons to Rourkela and 0·5 million tons to Bhilai.

Tatas have two washeries, one in West Bokaro and another in Jamadoba, which with certain improvements would supply 1·5 million tons of washed coals. The washery at Lodna which supplies the Indian Iron and Steel Works has an output of 0.22 million tons.

With the establishment of the washery at Kargali and the improvements to the Tata washeries, capacity has to be set up only for the balance of about five and a half million tons. In the contract for the steel plant at Durgapur is included a washery to wash Jharia coals to meet the requirements of that steel plant. These coals would be mixed with unwashed Barakar and Dishergarh coals, which, by themselves, are not suitable for metallurgical purposes.

The balance—about 4·8 million tons—is proposed to be met from three washeries to be put up—one in Dugda, another in Bhojudih and a third in Patherdih. The washery in Dugda would supply washed Jharia coals generally to Bhilai and Rourkela, the washery in Bhojudih to the Tata Iron and Steel Works and that in Patherdih to the Indian Iron and Steel Works.

Global quotations received for the Dugda washery for the supply of plant and equipment, have been examined and a decision expected to be taken in the next few days. The washery will have a capacity of about 500 tons per hour and is likely to be commissioned by the end of 1960. Until then, Jharia unwashed coal mixed with washed Kargali coals will be used in the blast furnaces of the Bhilai and Rourkela steel plants. Specifications for the Bhojudih washery have been finalised and tenders for the supply of plant and equipment will be invited shortly. Washability tests on the coals to be supplied to Patherdih are being carried out in the Central Fuel Research Institute, Jealgora.

Regional Languages in Punjab

677. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount to be given as grants-in-aid during 1958-59 to Punjab State for the development of regional languages; and

(b) the heads on which it is to be used?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration

Multi-purpose Schools in Punjab

678. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the **Minister of Education** be pleased to state the amount of grant sanctioned for multi-purpose schools in Punjab during 1958-59 District-wise?

The Minister for Education Dr. K. L. Shrimali): According to the new procedure, grants to State Governments for implementation of all their schemes are given as "ways and means advances" by the Ministry of Finance Three-fourths of the total amount is to be released in this way in nine equal monthly instalments beginning from May, 1958. The final sanction is to be issued in February, 1959. The grants are not sanctioned District-wise.

Giridih Collieries

679. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of retired workmen of the Giridih group of collieries have not been paid

their S.R.P.F. deposits and gratuity even after the lapse of 5 to 7 years since their retirement; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister for Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The ownership and management of these collieries were transferred to the National Coal Development Corporation (P) Ltd., a Company entirely financed by the Central Government, with effect from the 1st October, 1956 It is understood from the Corporation that payment of S.R.P.F. deposits and gratuity has been effected in a good many cases but there are about 120 retired employees who have not received their dues so far either because their confirmation in permanent posts was still under examination, the cadres in which they should be shown had not been finalised or the appropriate scales of pay for them on the recommendations of the first Central Pay Commission had not been decided These questions are now in the final stages of settlement It is understood from the Corporation that the Superintendent of Collieries, Giridih, has been asked to undertake a monthly review of the outstanding cases and to effect the payments without further delay The Government, for their part, will be watching the progress closely

Welfare of Kerala Tribals

680. **Shri Kodiyan:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state.

(a) the total amount given to the Kerala Government for implementing the centrally sponsored schemes for Tribal Welfare for the year 1957 and for the first half year of 1958; and

(b) the schemes for which this amount has been given?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) An amount of Rs 4·47 lakhs was given to the Kerala Government for implementing the Centrally sponsored schemes for Tribal Welfare during the financial year 1957-58. For the current financial year, a ceiling of Rs. 5·05 lakhs has been tentatively fixed for this purpose. Under the revised procedure, the grant-in-aid is not released half yearly but monthly in the form of Ways and Means Advances by the Ministry of Finance to be adjusted finally on the basis of actual expenditure.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 90.]

Expenditure on Anti-smuggling Measures

681. **Shri Kodiyan:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total expenditure incurred on anti-smuggling measures during 1957 and the first half of 1958?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): As there is no separate head of account under which the amounts expanded on anti-smuggling activities could be booked, the expenditure is not separately shown in the accounts Nor is it possible to indicate this in any exact measure because barring the Preventive and other staff mainly employed for anti-smuggling work the field staff are engaged in a variety of activities including assessment and collection of various duties The expenditure on anti-smuggling activities has, therefore, to be calculated on certain broad principles This will naturally take some time The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible

Resident Director for Rourkela Steel Plant

682. **Sardar Iqbal Singh;**
Shri Ram Krishan;

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Resident Director has been appointed for Rourkela Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the powers and functions of this Director?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). He is a Director of the Board of Hindustan Steel Private Limited, resident in Rourkela and exercises powers and functions of a General Manager in addition to those of a Director of the Company. This appointment was made for administrative reasons.

Three Year Degree Course

683. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri D C Sharma:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Shivananjappa:
Shri Pangarkar:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1419 on the 2nd April 1958 and lay a statement on the Table showing

(a) further progress made in the introduction of the three year degree course,

(b) the views of the State Governments and the Universities on the extent of Central assistance required under the scheme,

(c) the recommendations of the eight-man committee appointed to study the difficulties in implementing the 'Three Year Degree Course Estimates Committee's' recommendations;

(d) the final decision taken by Government in the matter; and

(e) the grant so far given to each University for the implementation of the scheme?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix II, annexure No. 91.]

New Oil Wells in Assam

684. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of oil wells struck in Assam, so far;

(b) the names of the places where these wells have been struck; and

(c) the total output of these wells?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) 1,087

(b) Digboi, Badarpur, Naharkatiya Main, Naharkatiya Extension, Hugrijan and Moran areas

(c) 60.5 million barrels

Survey of Antiquities

685. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 3290 on the 6th May, 1958 and State:

(a) the progress made so far regarding the survey of antiquities and monuments in the country undertaken by the Department of Archaeology; and

(b) the total amount spent on it so far?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) 17,776 villages had been surveyed throughout the country till the end of July, 1958

(b) Rs. 1,71,589 till the end of July, 1958

Forts and Palaces in Punjab

686. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some forts and palaces of historical importance in Punjab are proposed to be taken over by the Archaeological Department of the Government of India; and

(b) if so, when?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Admission to Delhi Schools

687. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) total number of additional seats provided for admission in Delhi schools at the beginning of the current school session over that of the previous session;

(b) total number of school-going children in Delhi who could not get admission at the beginning of the current school session; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide educational facilities to them?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) 31,269

(b) Nil to our knowledge

(c) Does not arise

Confiscation of Ships

688. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the names and total number of ships confiscated during 1957 and 1958 so far;

(b) the reasons for these confiscations;

(c) whether the ships were released later on; and

(d) if so, on what conditions?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) to (d). A statement containing the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix II, annexure No. 92.]

Probation of Offenders Act, 1958

689. **Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the States and the Union Territories where the Probation of Offenders Act, 1958 has been or is being brought into force; and

(b) the arrangement made so far in these areas for bringing the Act into force?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). The Act has not yet been brought into force in any State or Union Territory as the rules under the Act have yet to be made

Transportation of Crude Oil from Assam Fields

690. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
Shri Shivananjappa:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Petroleum Consultants of the U.S.A. have submitted their report to the Government on the project of transportation of crude oil from the Assam oil fields to the proposed refinery at Gauhati;

(b) if so, whether the report has been examined; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under examination.

(c) Does not arise.

Life Insurance Corporation of India

691. Shri Damani: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that office staff of the Life Insurance Corporation is being permitted by the Corporation to do insurance business like agents in their personal agency in addition to their services;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it affects the general efficiency of the staff of the Corporation?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Yes, Sir. The members of the administrative staff below the rank of Superintendents are permitted to canvass Life Insurance business in their personal agencies like other agents.

(b) This concession was given to the staff by the erstwhile insurers and the Corporation did not consider it advisable to withdraw this facility after the "Appointed day".

(c) No, Sir. The work of canvassing life insurance business is done outside office hours and the staff being conversant with the routine work involved, their efficiency is not affected.

दिल्ली प्रशासन

६९२. { श्री नवल प्रभाकर
श्री भक्त दर्शन.

क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली पुलिस के भ्रष्टाचार-निरोधी विभाग ने दिल्ली प्रशासन के कई अधिकारियों के खिलाफ विभागीय कार्यवाही करने की सिफारिश की है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन अधिकारियों के खिलाफ सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) २० अधिकारियों को सजायें दी गई, एक को इस्तीफा देने की इजाजत दे दी गई और बाकी मामले अभी विचाराधीन हैं ।

Indian University Degrees

693. Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those Foreign Universities which have not recognised Indian University Degrees so far; and

(b) the action taken by Government in this regard?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b) Detailed information regarding all the Foreign Universities which do not recognise Indian University Degrees is not available. Generally speaking, however, the Universities of the countries, where Indian students usually go for further studies such as U.K., U.S.A., Australia and Canada recognise Indian Degrees.

निवृत्ति-वेतन के मामले

६९४ **श्री डाभर** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि प्रति वर्ष औसतन कितने कर्मचारियों को निवृत्ति-वेतन (पेंशन) मिलने लगता है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री मोरारजी देसाई) सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और उसे यथासमय सभा की मेज पर रख दिया जायेगा ।

मध्य प्रदेश की आदिम जातियां

६९५. श्री डाभर : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने १९५८-५९ में मध्य प्रदेश सरकार को अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों के कल्याण के लिये कितनी राशि दी; और

(ख) उक्त धन से कौन-कौन सी योजनायें कार्यान्वित करने का विचार है ?

गृह-कार्य उपमंत्री (श्रीमती आल्वा): (क) इस काम के लिये मध्य प्रदेश को ९१ २६ लाख रुपये की रकम दी गई है ।

(ख) राज्य सरकार के वित्त विभाग ने इस साल पूरी करने के लिये जो योजनायें मंजूर की हैं उनकी सूची अभी नहीं मिली है । उसके प्राप्त होते ही वह सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायगी ।

Central Excise Department, Orissa

696. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1936 on the 2nd April, 1958 in respect of staff quarters for the Central Excise Department and state:

(a) whether any further progress has since been made in this regard; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) The requisite preliminaries regarding acquisition of site for the construction of staff quarters in Cuttack have since been completed, and orders for its acquisition will issue shortly.

(b) Does not arise.

पब्बर नदी (हिमाचल प्रदेश) पर पुल

६९७. श्री पवन देव : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री २८ अप्रैल, १९५८ के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २८८९ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पब्बर नदी पर पुल बनाने के लिये अन्तिम रूप से कोई स्थान चुन लिया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह कब तक बनना आरम्भ हो जायगा ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री बहादुर) (क) जी नहीं । हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रशासन ने एक उचित स्थान पर पुल बनाने के सवाल को केन्द्रीय परिवहन और यातायात मंत्रालय के पास उनकी सलाह के लिये भेज दिया है ।

(ख) इस बारे में परिवहन और यातायात मंत्रालय से जवाब आने पर चालू वित्तीय वर्ष में ही पुल बनाने का काम शुरू करने का विचार है ।

हिमाचल प्रदेश में निवृत्ति वेतन के मामले

६९८. श्री पवन देव : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री १५ अप्रैल, १९५८ के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २८८८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या निवृत्ति वेतन पाने वाले उन २६ व्यक्तियों के सम्बन्धियों को, जो निवृत्ति वेतन दावों के बारे में निर्णय होने के पूर्व ही मर गये, निवृत्ति वेतन सम्बन्धी उनके दावों के बारे में निर्णय हो जाने के बाद कोई निवृत्ति वेतन दिया जायेगा ,

(ख) क्या उन लोगों के निवृत्ति वेतन के मामलों को, जिनके मामले अभी विचाराधीन है, शीघ्र निबटाने की व्यवस्था की गई है; और

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि उन व्यक्तियों में, जिनको अभी तक निवृत्ति वेतन नहीं मिला है, केवल भूतपूर्व राज्यों के कर्मचारी ही नहीं हैं अपितु अन्य कर्मचारी भी हैं ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) (क) जी हां, स्वर्गीय पेंशनरों के कानूनी उत्तराधिकारियों या उनके द्वारा नामजद किये गये व्यक्तियों को पेंशनर के रिटायर होने की तारीख से उसकी मृत्यु की तारीख तक की पेंशन की रकम दी जायेगी । इसके साथ साथ उन्हें डेथ-कम-रिटायरमेंट ग्रैचुइटी मिलेगी ।

(ख) जी हां. पेंशन के जिन मामलों का अभी कोई फैसला नहीं हुआ है उन्हें जल्दी निबटाने के लिये हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रशासन के वित्त विभाग में एक आफीसर आन स्पेशल ड्यूटी नियुक्त किया गया है जो जिले के सदर मुकामों और दूसरे स्थानों पर स्थित विभिन्न सम्बन्धित कार्यालयों में जहां भी जरूरत होगी वहां स्वयं जा कर मौके पर ही इन मामलों को निबटाने में सहायता करेगा ।

(ग) जी हां ।

Vigilance Manual

699. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that a vigilance manual is proposed to be published by the Administrative Vigilance Division; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of the same will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) Yes.

(b) A copy will be supplied to the Parliament Library.

M.B.B. College, Agartala

700. Shri Bangshi Thakur: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some posts of lecturers are still vacant in Maharaja Bir Bikram College, Agartala, Tripura; and

(b) if so, what is the exact position at present?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Candidates have been interviewed and selected for the vacant posts and will be appointed shortly.

Land Revenue

701. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual land revenue of Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the total amount of land revenue likely to be collected after the implementation of land reforms?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Rs 17,17,835 47 was the fixed land revenue demand in 1957-58

(b) There is no likelihood of an appreciable change in the amount of land revenue collection as a result of the implementation of land reforms

Opium Smuggling

702. Shri Raghunath Singh:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state how many opium smuggling cases were detected or caught in India during the last three months?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): 303 cases of smuggling of opium were detected during the period from May to July, 1958.

I.A.S.

703. Shri Mohammed Imam: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state

(a) the number of I A S candidates selected during 1956-57 and 1957-58,

(b) how many out of them have been appointed so far, and

(c) the procedure adopted for their selection?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b)

Year	of Combined Competitive Examination	Special Recruitment Examination	
	No. Appointed		
1956	76	102 were selected and offers of appointment have been sent to 72 of them	
1957	64		

(c) The selection is made in accordance with the procedure prescribed in the I A S (Recruitment) Rules, 1954 I A S (Appointment by Competitive Examination) Regulations 1955, and I A S (Special Recruitment) Regulations 1956

All India Kerala Ayurvedic Congress

704. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the All India Kerala Ayurvedic Congress for exempting rectified spirit used for Kashayas from excise duty, and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai) (a) The All India Kerala Ayurvedic Congress have represented that duty on rectified spirit used for Kashayas should be subject to the lower rate of duty levied before the enforcement of the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955 (16 of 1955)

(b) The matter is under consideration in consultation with the State Governments

Engineering Schools

705. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Schools to be opened in Punjab out of the 62 such schools to be opened during the Second Five Year Plan period as recommended by the Engineering Personnel Committee, and

(b) names of the places where schools have been opened or are proposed to be opened?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [*See* Appendix II, annexure No 93]

Imperial War Graves Commission

707. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state

(a) whether the Imperial War Graves Commission have constructed memorials in Burma

(b) if so at what places and

(c) the number of memorials or graves of the Indian soldiers at each place?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes, Sir, the memorial is known as the Rangoon Memorial

(b) At Taukkyan War Cemetery near Rangoon

(c) The Rangoon Memorial commemorates *inter alia*, 19,578 soldiers of the undivided Indian Army who have no known graves In the Taukkyan War Cemetery, 1,459 soldiers of the undivided Indian Army have been buried and the Taukkyan Cremation Memorial commemorates the names of 971 soldiers of the undivided Indian Army whose remains were cremated.

Small Savings Scheme

708. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which organisation for the Small Savings Scheme has been expanded during 1958 so far at Central and State levels; and

(b) the number of persons and institutions working on commission basis and the percentage of the commission that is given to them?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Except for a few ministerial posts numbering 6 in all, there has been no expansion in the Central Organisation. The Government of India have, however, agreed to the appointment of complementary staff by the State Governments to help the Central Organisation. The number of staff so far approved by the Government of India for appointment by the State Governments is 210, comprising 17 Gazetted and 193 non-Gazetted officers.

(b) The number of persons and institutions working as agents is about 56,000. Agents are paid commission at the rate of 1-1.4 per cent. on the sale of National Plan Savings Certificates and ¼ per cent. on the sale of Treasury Savings Deposit Certificates.

Indian Trainees in Germany

709. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Indian trainees are undergoing training at present in industrial establishments in the Federal Republic of Germany; and

(b) if so, the nature of such training and the number and names of the industrial establishments in which they are undergoing training?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. According to available information, Indian nationals were receiving training in engineering, scientific and technical subjects in 438 industrial establishments in West Germany. Collection of the names of all these establishments would involve time and labour which would not be commensurate with the results.

Income-tax Arrears

710. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the procedure for writing off the income-tax arrears and the amount of arrears written off during the last five years?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): A statement giving the position is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix II, annexure No. 94.]

Wealth-tax

711. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total value of wealth of persons assessable under the Wealth-tax Act, 1957 in each State?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): A statement of the value of net wealth of persons assessed under the Wealth-tax Act, 1957 in respect of the assessments completed up to 31st July, 1958 will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as the information which is being collected is available.

Ashrams for Scheduled Tribes

712. { Sardar Iqbal Singh: / Shri Pangarkar:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have started Ashrams and Sevashrams for the basic education for Scheduled Tribes;

(b) details of the proposal; and

(c) number of such institutions and schools opened in each State?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) to (c). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok

Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 95.]

University of Delhi

713. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University of Delhi has introduced a new scheme of tutorials;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the approximate additional expenditure on the scheme?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [*See* Appendix II, annexure No 96]

(c) The Tutorial Scheme will be entirely financed during the experimental period of five years out of a grant of $4,26,000 made by the Ford Foundation The University will not have to incur any expenditure separately on this account

Theft in Manipur Post Office

714. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a theft was committed in the branch Post Office at Hoochong in Tamenglong Sub-Division (Manipur) on the 9th July, 1958;

(b) if so, whether any arrests have been made in this connection, and

(c) the steps taken to prevent such incidents in the future?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) to (c). No However a theft was committed on that date in the Hoochong School, to which the branch Post Office is attached, and the case is under investigation by the Police

Foreigners Bank Accounts in India

715. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) how many foreigners have accounts in Indian banks; and

(b) what is the total amount of deposits?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). The information required is not readily available, and will have to be collected from the banks The Reserve Bank of India, which has been consulted, is of the opinion that the collection of this information is likely to involve a great deal of time and labour which may be out of all proportion to the value of such information for statistical or other purposes

Indian Athletes in Asian Games

716. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state

(a) the number of Indian athletes and sportsmen who participated in the Asian Game in Japan this year; and

(b) the number of items in which Indian athletes and sportsmen distinguished themselves?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) 71

(b) The Indian athletes and sportsmen distinguished themselves in the following items

Gold Medal (First place)

200 Meters—Shri Milkha Singh
400 Meters—Shri Milkha Singh
Hop Step & Jump—Shri Mohinder Singh
Shot Put—Shri Parduman Singh
Discus Throw—Shri Balkar Singh

Silver Medal (Second Place)

200 Meters—Kumari S D'Souza
Javeline Throw—Kumari E J Davenport.
Hockey—Indian team
Boxing—Shri Hari Singh.

Bronze Medal (Third Place)

Discus Throw—Shri Parduman Singh.
400 Meters Relay—Indian team
Volleyball—Indian team.
Boxing—Shri Sunder Rao.

Smuggling

717. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Bombay Customs authorities in the course of a search of Cross Island on the 11th July, 1958 seized American cigarettes which were purchased from the members of the crew of S S 'TIMAVO'?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): Yes, Sir On 11th July, 1958, the Preventive Staff at Bombay intercepted a 'Tony' coming from Cross Island The occupants of the 'Tony' confessed to having dumped on the island, some bundles of American cigarettes which they had purchased from the crew members of S S 'TIMAVO' A search of the island resulted in the find of six cloth bundles containing in all 429 cartons of American cigarettes 200 cigarettes to a carton The cigarettes have been confiscated and suitable action has also been taken under the Sea Customs Act against the crew members concerned of S S 'TIMAVO'

Rajkumari Coaching Scheme

718 Shri Ghosal: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state

(a) the nature of scheme taken over under the Rajkumari Coaching Scheme and

(b) what have been the result achieved under these schemes?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K L. Shrimali) (a) The Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme aims at the development of sports and games in the country by imparting coaching in the various sports and games At present the Scheme provides for Coaching by experts in the following games and sports

Athletics
Hockey
Table Tennis
Basketball
Tennis.
Football
Swimming
Gymnastics
Cricket
Badminton
Volleyball

(b) The Scheme has achieved considerable success in building up a talented group of players several of whom have distinguished themselves in National and International Events All medalists in the 2nd and 3rd Asian Games and the last Commonwealth Games had received training under the Scheme

राजस्थान को शिक्षा संस्थाओं को सहायता

७१६ **श्री पं० ला० बाकलीवाल** क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि वर्ष १९५३-५८ और १९५८-५९ में अब तक मंत्रालय ने राजस्थान की कितनी शिक्षा संस्थाओं को वित्तीय सहायता दी है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० के० एल० श्रीमाली)

१९५३-५८	१९
१९५८-५९ (अब तक)	३

Aid to Kerala State

720. Shri I. Eacharan. Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state

(a) the amount of aid given to Kerala Government to raise the salaries of the non-gazetted officers and other low-paid employees of the State during 1957-58

(b) what is the proportion of the State contribution towards this, and

(c) whether it is subscribed fully?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) A grant of Rs 64,74,000 (Rupees sixty-four lakhs

and seventy-four thousand only), representing two-thirds of the estimated expenditure to be incurred by the Government of Kerala on increasing the emoluments of low-paid employees of the State Government and Local Bodies and teachers in private primary schools, was sanctioned by the Ministry of Finance during 1957-58. The grant is subject to final adjustment on the basis of actual entitlement.

(b) One-third of the total expenditure

(c) The expenditure involved in sanctioning the increases in emoluments will have to be incurred by the State Government in full in the first instance Thereafter the Government of India re-imburses its share of the expenditure, subject to the conditions laid down for the grant of Central assistance being fulfilled

Machinery for Neyveli Project

721. { **Shri Thanu Pillai:** / **Shri Subbiah Ambalam:**

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state

(a) the total amount sanctioned for purchase of machinery for the Neyveli Lignite Project,

(b) the value of machinery purchased so far, and

(c) the names of suppliers and their agents in India and the value of machineries supplied by each firm?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The total amount sanctioned so far for the purchase of machinery for the Neyveli Lignite Project is about Rs. 740 lakhs.

(b) The value of machinery for which orders have been placed so far is about Rs 669 lakhs.

(c) A statement giving the required particulars is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix II, Annexure No. 97.]

Minor Irrigation Projects

722. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2027 on the 6th May, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the report of the Team for Irrigation and Power Projects set up by the Committee on Plan Projects has submitted its report on minor irrigation projects, and

(b) if so, whether a copy of the report will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) No.

(b) As soon as the report is received it will be placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha

Delhi University

723. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Ford Foundation has granted aid of 20,000 Dollars to the Delhi University, and

(b) if so, name of scheme to be financed from this aid?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b) The grant of 20,000 dollars has not been made to the University of Delhi, but to the Delhi Training and Orientation Centre for foreign technicians in India which functions under the guidance and supervision of the Delhi School of Economics Society and provides Orientation courses for these technicians

Testing Adulteration of Ghee

724. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** / **Shri Hem Barua:**

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Food Technological Research Institute (Mysore) has

invented a cheap testing kit for testing adulteration of Ghee; and

(b) if so, when this kit is likely to be made available in the market?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a). Yes Sir.

(b). The kit is available from the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore. Production of the kit on a commercial scale has not yet been undertaken by industry.

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12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Audit Report of Delhi Government

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): I beg to lay on the Table under Article 151(1) of the Constitution, a copy of the Finance Account of the Government of Delhi, 1954-55 and the Audit Report, 1955. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-838/58]

Annual Report of Indian Mining and Construction Company Limited

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers:

(1) Annual Report of the Indian Mining and Construction Company (Private) Limited for the year 1956-57 along with the Audited Accounts, under sub-section (1) of section 639 of the Companies Act, 1956

(2) Brief Review by the Government of the Report [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-839/58.]

Supplementary statement showing action taken by Government on various assurances etc.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the supplementary statement No. V showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by Ministers during the Fourth Session of Second Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix 2, annexure No. 98.]

Amendment to All India Services (Leave) Rules

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, a copy of the Notification No. G S.R. 689 dated the 16th August, 1958 making certain amendment to the All India Services (Leave) Rules, 1955 [*Placed in Library See* No LT-841/58.]

Amendments to Customs Duties Drawback (Radio Receivers) Rules

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, a copy of the Notification No. G.S.R 638 dated the 25th July, 1958 making certain amendments to the Customs Duties Drawback (Radio Receivers) Rules, 1957. [*Placed in Library. See* No LT-842/58.]

12.03 hrs.

MERCHANT SHIPPING BILL

Report of the Joint Committee

Shri Barman (Cooch-Bihar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to present the Report of the Joint Committee on the Merchant Shipping Bill, 1958.

Evidence tendered before Joint Committee

Shri Barman: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the evidence tendered before the Joint Committee on the Merchant Shipping Bill, 1958.

12.04 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TWENTY-SEVENTH REPORT

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to move:

"That this House agrees with the Twenty-seventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 20th August, 1958."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Twenty-seventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 20th August, 1958."

The motion was adopted.

12·05 hrs.

MOTION RE FOOD SITUATION—*contd*

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume discussion on the motion regarding the food situation in the country which was moved by Shri Ajit Prasad Jain on the 20th August and the subsequent motions Nos. 1 to 8 moved thereto yesterday Out of seven hours allotted to this, 3 hours and 17 minutes now remain, excluding the time taken after 5 P.M yesterday Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay may continue

Some Hon. Members: The time may be extended

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): I feel very strongly about this problem I request that the whole day may be allotted.

Mr. Speaker: We sat for an hour more yesterday; from seven it has been increased to eight hours. Which are the States from which representatives have not spoken so far?

Some Hon. Members *rose*—

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Bombay State is important.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Eastern U.P.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the desire of the House that we should extend the time?

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): We are in your hands. You have always one hour at your discretion. You can give that.

Mr. Speaker: I extend the time by one more hour That will come to 9 hours. That will mean the whole of this day. The hon. Minister will take the last hour, from four to five. So, we will carry on with this for the whole day.

Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay (Pratapfarh): Does it mean that the time for each speaker is also extended?

Mr. Speaker: No; the time-limit is 15 minutes each

Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay: As I was submitting yesterday, the crisis in respect of food in our country has become a normal feature of our life and we can very well imagine the gravity of the situation when the crisis has to become a regular feature. Scarcity of food has been persisting for a number of years in our country, but the position this year appears to be the worst. The prices have gone very high, probably higher than the price we had in 1953, the worst year in respect of prices.

Figures are, of course, there. But from my own experience, I can say that in my own constituency wheat was selling at 1¾ seers a rupee, i.e. less than 2 seers a rupee, pulse was selling at 1½ seers a rupee I do not know if the position has improved during the last few days, but that was the position when I left my constituency. I find that the hon. Minister also admits that this is really the

worst year in that respect and the prices have gone very high. But he hopes the position will improve shortly, after a few weeks, as he said.

The problem that we are considering here divides itself into two parts. The first part is the part where we are faced with a grave situation and we have to make arrangements to meet that. In respect of this part, we have to look to the measures that have been adopted by the hon Minister to meet the situation and to see that adequate quantities of foodgrains reach the houses of the people. There is no doubt that the supply of food is limited and that the prices are very high. But when the situation is such, the measures of distribution assume great importance. We have to see how far this function has been done by the Government.

From the explanation given by the Minister and also from the white paper, I find that they have adopted a number of measures such as the division of the country into zones, opening of fair-price shops, credit control, guest control, etc. They have not allowed the mills to make purchases in the open market. These are some of the steps that have been taken by the hon. Minister to meet the situation. There is no doubt that the situation is grave. But under these circumstances I do appreciate, and I hope other hon. Members will also appreciate, the measures that are being taken by the hon. Food Minister to meet the situation. Although some hon. Members have made some reference to starvation deaths, I do not think that scarcity of food has been mainly responsible for such deaths. But for the distribution machinery and steps taken by the hon. Minister being efficient, the position would have been much worse, considering the supply of food that we have in the country at present.

Some reference was made to imports also. Of course, I have serious objection to import of foodgrains when our country is mainly an agricultural country. But in the situation in which we are to-day I do not think there is any other alternative but to import to save our country. I shall deal with the import aspect in a minute. Before that I want to refer to another aspect.

That aspect is the production of foodgrains. We have to see why the production, which we are increasing gradually, is not able to meet the demands. The demand is stated to have increased on two grounds—increase in population and increase in the purchasing power of the people on account of the improvement in the economic condition of the people, that is, increase in the *per capita* income. These are the reasons that are given in the White Paper. I do not think the second ground is a sound one. Because, as some hon. Members have stated, the increase in income of the upper strata of society appears to be greater than that of the lower-strata and the proportion of income devoted to foodgrains purchase by the upper strata is very limited. So, I do not think it has very much affected the increase in demand. There is some truth in the view that the quantity of foodgrains purchased in the market is not greater, but a larger proportion of the income of the people is spent in the market for purchasing these foodgrains. The demand remains almost the same. There might be a slight increase in demand, but this is almost negligible.

Of course, the main ground is the increase in population. But that is nothing new. We knew it; the Government knew it and the whole country knows it, and we were and are making arrangements to meet that problem. So, to say that the population has increased and so the demand has increased and, therefore, it is difficult to meet the increased demand is not enough. The Government and the country should be prepared to meet such an increase in demand.

[Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay.]

So we have to direct our attention to the production of food. Import of foodgrains is really a curse to our country. The production of food, they say, is not very much in their hands; it is not in their control. 80 per cent of the land depends on monsoon for irrigation. So, it is not possible to control production there very much; quite right. But the balance 20 per cent. of the land is under their control. It is no doubt true that it is a small portion and a larger portion is out of their control. Now we have to see what efforts the Government are making to increase the food production in that small area, 20 per cent of the land that is under irrigation.

We have seen that there are the Community Projects, the NES Blocks, the Grow More Food campaign and so many other departments. We have the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee report. Thousands of people are working in these departments. All these departments are working to increase the production of foodgrains. I would like to refer to the efforts made by these departments and the measures adopted by them to achieve the targets. But since in the report itself it is stated that very little is being done and very small achievements have been made, I would like to know from the hon. Minister how do they expect that they shall be able to meet the demand and make the country self-sufficient, which is our aim.

The main thing in the matter of food production is irrigation. There are various kinds of irrigation—major, medium and minor irrigation works. I was looking into the figures of the targets fixed in the Second Five Year Plan for major and medium irrigation works and I found that the target was 30·2 lakh tons of produce. But the achievement for the two years was 1·7 lakh plus 2·7 lakh tons; not more than that. The achievement is very small. I do not know why it was not possible for them to achieve at least a portion of what they should have achieved by now. The reason given for it is very ridiculous. The reason is that the field channels are not constructed by the villagers, by the cultivators, and that is why the supply of water is not reaching the fields. It is stated by the Deputy-Chairman of the Planning Commission in his speech that for the irrigation of one million acres of land 2,500 miles of canals and 10,000 miles of field channels have to be dug. I do not think that it is ever possible for the cultivators to construct so many miles of field channels to bring water to their field. It is an impossibility which is expected of them. So the Government should have known the result. The result is that they have not been able to make use of the water that is brought through the canals. Canals are constructed and dams are constructed; but channels are not constructed. Tube wells are constructed but electricity is not supplied. Unless you have all these constructions simultaneously, how is it possible for the cultivators to make use of the water immediately? Now there is a lag of 3, 4 or 5 years between the Construction and actual utilisation So, crores of rupees are being invested in these irrigation projects and they are of little immediate use to the people. People are still not getting water. I find that the canals generally are not able to supply water at the time of crops. That is why the cultivators suffer. The rates of water are high and prohibitive.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): Too high.

Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay: In respect of tubewells it is very high and in respect of canals it is quite high and it is not possible for people to make use of it. Then, people are not used to it. People do not know the benefit of it. Unless in the beginning they get used to it, they do not feel very much attracted to it and if instead of attracting them you put prohibitive rates in the very beginning it is not possible to

encourage people to make use of it. In the beginning you put very high rates and therefore people do not come to it because the rates are very high.

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): Where is it done? In which place are these water rates high?

Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay: In Uttar Pradesh, in Bihar, in the Damodar Valley Project, it is the same state. You might have seen that water is now proposed to be supplied free in the beginning so that people might get used to it.

Shri Dasappa: In Durgapur Barrage.

Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay: Yes, In Durgapur Barrage.

The other item is the minor irrigation projects. Under the target was 18·9 and the achievement uptil now is only 7·0 lakh tons. The number of tubewells constructed is also very much smaller. As I have no time, I cannot go into details, but you will see that under improved seeds also, the supply of seeds that was stipulated is very short. That is why the tenant is not in a position to take full advantage of it.

Then, 4,185 seed farms were to be opened in the Second Plan period. The number of farms that have been started uptil now is only 978.

As regards manure, my hon. friend—I do not remember who, but probably Shri Subramanyam—referred to the exhaustion of nitrogen from the soil. It has been emphasised very much by the experts that nitrogen is exhausted and the measures that could bring nitrogen were of course green manure of oilcake fertilisers or artificial manure. But none of them are available. In some cases where it is available it is very costly and in some cases fertilisers are not available because there is no foreign exchange available. The supply of seed for green manuring is inadequate.

So, on these accounts I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to these factors. How does he meet these points? When you fix a target and when you invest so much money on it, how is it that the target is not achieved? There this calamity does not come in. You always say that there is the calamity, that natural calamities stand in your way. I do not think natural calamities stand in our way in these matters. Some of these, of course, might be affected by natural calamities, but mostly they are not affected by natural calamities. I would like the hon Minister to pay a little attention to it and see what is wrong because the achievement under any item is not complete. It is not even near the proportion that they should have achieved by now.

One minute more and I shall finish. Last year the hon. Minister said that this proposition of self-sufficiency of food was a receding target. Then last year I thought that it was hopeless. I had seen the report of the Foodgrains Committee also. They also seem to be a little despondent. This year, I am very glad that he has said that import is a curse and it has to be avoided.

Shri Ranga: Who says that?

Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay: This year the Hon. Minister says that import is very bad and it has to be avoided. It is not proper for our country.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Who said that?

Shri Ranga: Therefore he is going to depend upon it.

Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay: Let us depend upon it. The hon. Minister has said that that is really the position. In my opinion also import is a curse.

Shri Tyagi: It is a blessing today.

Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay: However, I would request the hon. Minister that he should try to attain self-sufficiency in food. He should try to build up the will of the people. Unless the people are enthused, unless the people feel that food production is to be increased, food production cannot be increased. If you say that there is the alternative of imports and you can depend upon imports, then the situation will be disastrous. Therefore I submit that more attention should be paid on production and imports should not be depended upon. It would be very disastrous if we look to imports for supplying food to our people in the country.

Mr. Speaker: I would request hon. Members to conclude their remarks within 15 minutes. I will give them notice two minutes in advance and as soon as the bell rings for the second time, hon. Members will kindly resume their seats I find that a number of hon. Members want to have an opportunity to speak.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri (Berhampore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, hard things have been said already in this House in the course of yesterday's discussion and still harder things will be said. I hope the hon. Minister would not mind if I add my quota to it.

If we take, leaving aside the criticism that has been made in this House, the bitter critical comments with which the white paper that has been circulated to us has been received by the Press, we can easily conclude that the food policy that is being pursued by the Government has met with complete disapproval in the country. But somehow or other, Government seem to be impervious to everything—newspaper criticism, criticism in this House, criticism by people outside the House and even rumblings of popular upheavals caused by scarcity and lack of food. Nothing seems to shake this Government out of their complacence.

I remember to have read somewhere in the Asoka Mehta Committee's Report—most probably it was towards the close of Chapter IV where the Committee had reviewed in retrospect the past policies of the Government and offered certain criticisms—that the officials of the Food Ministry who appeared before the Committee were eager to learn from the experience of the past and to distil proper conclusions for future action from their past experience. But it seems, if this white paper is any evidence, that past experience has produced no results uptil now. A plain reading of the white paper on food or the perusal of the opening speech that the hon. Minister made yesterday leaves one cold. What is the policy and line of action enunciated? It is the same old policy which has brought us to the present crisis and doing nothing. There is absolutely no change of policy. It is still the policy of trudging along the same old rut till the cart breaks down or till disaster overtakes us.

We heard the hon. Minister yesterday and there we find that he can only look forward wistfully to the coming of the *kharif* crop in the market. It is fortunate for him that now *kharif* crops are in prospect. If it had been *rabi* crops, he would have depended on *rabi* crops coming in the market. But he seems to forget that the prospect of *kharif* crops even this year are not very good if the latest weather and crop reports are to be believed.

Of course, there have been vagaries of monsoon, particularly in the eastern regions of India. Eastern U.P., Bihar and parts of West Bengal have been suffering either from floods or from drought for the last three or four years. The overall shortage or shortfall in production, compared to the production of last year, with which

we are conferred today is the result of the drought that took place last years. According to the figures given to us by the hon. Minister the overall shortage, compared to the total production and stock in hand last year, is about 6·32 million tons.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): 6.7.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: That is a shortage of 8.7 per cent. This again, I think, is a rather an underestimate. The shortage, according to my calculations, is a little higher. But it passes one's comprehension why, although Government was in full possession of these facts at least several months before, they failed to formulate a programme of food imports and distribution of stocks in hand, which would go to meet the situation. Prices have suddenly shot up to 113 according to the latest price index of wholesale prices. And even the price index of wholesale prices does not give a completely accurate picture. For example, in Orissa, rice is selling, according to the Government reports, at somewhere between Rs. 14 and Rs. 21. But in Calcutta, at the present moment the rate is Rs. 29. In the district from which I come in West Bengal, the highest rate is Rs. 30 to Rs. 32. In North Bengal it is generally over Rs. 30. You have to remember the fact that people in West Bengal are not to-day dependent solely on consuming rice or taking rice. In the course of the last few years they have grown used to taking wheat. But the tragedy is that with all the promises of wheat that were held out to the State of West Bengal, in most of the districts—I have toured almost all the districts in West Bengal—even wheat is simply not available. I received a letter day before yesterday that in my district wheat is not available there even in towns. In the modified ration shops, only rice is available and the balance is not made up either by rice or by wheat.

I might also state here that for the last six months the entire rural economy of West Bengal is sustained by what are known as test relief works, and people get their wages for working in these test relief works in the shape of a certain quantity of wheat. I do not know if it is as a result of a circular of the West Bengal Government or the introduction of this Government, but the fact is that in almost all the districts, the test relief works continue for only three days in the week and for four days of the week there is no work and no wheat.

In the fair price shops, as I have just now said, wheat is simply not available. I want to know from the hon. Minister what is the total quantity of wheat that he has promised to West Bengal, for this year at least. He has promised something over 3 lakh maunds of rice. But so far as wheat is concerned he has said that reasonable demands for wheat would be met. What are 'reasonable demands'? According to the latest estimate of the West Bengal Government, the overall shortage in the State of West Bengal is about 7 lakh tons. Even if we get 1 lakh ton in the shape of rice, what about the rest? Are we going to get that much of wheat?

Shri A. P. Jain: May I give the figures to the hon. Member? We are supplying about 60,000 tons of wheat a month to West Bengal and we have agreed to supply 1,75,000 tons of rice. So these two together—wheat would be 6 lakh tons or more in a year and rice would be 1·75 lakh tons—would meet the full deficit.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Anyway, if the full deficit quantity is suplied, then I would request the hon. Minister to make some enquiries as to why the wheat that is promised fails to reach the districts. I made enquiries in my district with the District Magistrate—and I may state here that in almost all the districts the District Magistrates are nowadays entrusted with the work of relief

[Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri]

principally—he does not get the wheat he requires daily. About only lakh of people there are dependent—I am speaking of only one district—on test relief works. They are employed on test relief works, and about 1 lakh maunds of wheat is required every month. But even that much of wheat is not available. Trains do not arrive Some time back we were told that certain ships were lying in the Vizag port and the wheat from those ships would be sent straight to our district. But somehow or other, either the wagon supplies failed or there is some other maladjustment, and no remedy can be found whereby these temporary maladjustments are to be remedied.

So my main charge against this Government is that in spite of the fact that they more or less knew what would be the overall shortage, they failed to plan in advance. I am not concerned here so much with long-term policies or long-range policies; I mean that can wait. But at the present moment, in the immediate context, we are confronted with the situation created by over-all shortage as it is to-day. And I may tell the hon Minister that *kharif* crops this year, at least in the Eastern regions of India, are not going to be up to his expectations. Monsoons have failed in large parts of Bengal, and monsoons have failed in large parts of Bihar and Eastern U.P. *Kharif* crops have not been sown; *aman* crops have not been sown. The seedlings have gone to waste, and because the monsoons have been belated this year—in the coming year—the ground shall not be prepared properly or adequately for the sowing of *Rabi* crops. However much the Minister for Community Development may wax enthusiastic about the *kharif* campaign about which he informed us the other day at question time, we do not know what type of campaign is taking place Mere enthusiasm does not produce rains if there is a failure of rains. As the hon. Minister stated our entire economy is in that stage where it is just a gamble in monsoons. We have to plan in advance for the shortage that would inevitably occur if the monsoon fails. Monsoons have failed and floods have occurred in the eastern regions of India. I have spoken mostly about West Bengal. But conditions in Bihar and particularly in Eastern U.P. are no better. Let the hon. Minister not depend on coming *kharif* crops alone. Let us devise some other means and plan imports properly. He has told us that he expects a little over 1 million tons more of wheat imports But that would cover hardly one-third of the overall shortage He has to see to it that whatever the imports are, they reach the consumers so that they can get at least something to fill their bellies with.

श्री रावेलाल व्यास (उज्जैन) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, गत वर्ष की तरह खाद्य समस्या पर इस बार भी बहस हो रही है। गत वर्ष देश में अकाल की सी स्थिति पैदा हो गई थी और इसका कारण यह था कि कहीं पर बारिश कम हुई थी और कहीं पर अधिक हुई थी और इसके फलस्वरूप अनाज की कमी पैदा हो गई थी और एक विषम स्थिति पैदा हो गई थी। उसका मुकाबला करने का हमारे खाद्य मंत्रालय ने काफी प्रयत्न किया है। आज भी यह मंत्रालय इस समस्या को सुलझाने में प्रयत्नशील है। इसमें कोई शक नहीं कि हमारे खाद्य मंत्री महोदय इस विषय में काफी चिंतित हैं और इस समस्या को हल करने में भी लगे हुए हैं। इस दिशा में उन्होंने कई कदम उठाये हैं। एक तो उन्होंने जोन कायम किये हैं, दूसरे इम्पोर्टस पर काफी जोर दिया है, तीसरे फेयर प्राइस शाप्स बढ़ाई हैं, मिलों द्वारा जो गेहूं बाजार में खरीदा जाता था उसको बन्द किया, बैंकों द्वारा उधार दिये जाने पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाये तथा इसी तरह की दूसरी कार्रवाइयां कीं। इतना होने पर भी,

मैं समझता हूं कुछ और सुधारों की आवश्यकता है और उनकी ओर हमारे मंत्री महोदय का तत्काल ध्यान जाना चाहिये ।

जोन के बारे में मैंने पहले भी जब जोन बनाने की बात हुई थी, अपने विचार प्रकट किये थे और मेरा खयाल यह था कि गेहूं के प्रदेशों का अगर एक ही जोन रहता तो ज्यादा अच्छा होता । ऐसा न करके आपने उत्तर प्रदेश को अलग रख दिया और इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि मध्य प्रदेश से काफी गेहूं चोरी छिपे यहां आया । अगर माननीय मंत्री जी जांच करें तो उनको पता चलेगा कि भेलसा, बासुदा आदि से गेहूं व्यापुर गया जो राजस्थान में है और चूंकि धानपुर में इतने गेहूं कि आवश्यकता नहीं थी इस वास्ते वहां से हजारों मन गेहूं ट्रकों में भर भर कर आगरा डिविजन में गया और वहां से उत्तर प्रदेश के दूसरे क्षेत्रों में गया । इसी तरह से.....

श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया (इटावा) : आप क्या चाहते हैं, न जाने ?

श्री राघेलाल व्यास : मैं तो चाहता था कि उत्तर प्रदेश उस जोन में शामिल होता ताकि हम सब मिलकर खा लेते ।

इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि किसान जिस को ठीक कीमत मिल सकती थी वह तो उस से वंचित रह गया और साहूकार जोकि चोरी करके गेहूं वहां ले जाते थे उन्होंने उससे बहुत फायदा उठाया, बहुत लाभ उठाया । यह जो बीच वालों ने फायदा उठाया उससे न तो किसान को कोई फायदा हुआ और न ही कंज्यूमर्स को । इसके साथ ही साथ मध्य प्रदेश के जो कंज्यूमर्स थे उनको भी भाव अधिक देने पड़े क्योंकि वहां से अनाज बाहर चला गया और वहां पर अनाज की कमी पैदा हो गई । भेलसा में जहां पहले १२ या १३ रुपये मन गेहूं हुआ करता था १६ रुपये मन उसका भाव हो गया और आज भी पिसे गेहूं का भाव १६ रुपये मन है ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : चोरों को जेल में भेजा जाना चाहिये ।

श्री राघेलाल व्यास : इसी तरह से बम्बई का भी हाल है । जब जोन बने तब बम्बई प्रदेश को तो जोन में शामिल कर दिया गया था लेकिन जो बम्बई शहर था इसको अलग रखा गया था । मालवा में बहुत बढ़िया किस्म का गेहूं होता है । चूंकि वहां से गेहूं बाहर चला गया इसलिए वहां पर उसका भाव २२ रुपये से लेकर २५ रुपये मन तक हो गया गत वर्ष और अभी भी वहां पर जो दाम हैं वे २२ और २३ रुपये से कम नहीं हैं ।

अब मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जो जोन बने हैं वे तो रहें लेकिन अगली फसल को देख कर के, यदि वह अच्छी हो तो इन जोन्स पर फिर से विचार किया जाये । पेशतर इसके कि फसल बाजार में आये, खलियान में आये उसके पहले ही ज्यादा अच्छा होगा कि पंजाब, उत्तर प्रदेश, राजस्थान, मध्य प्रदेश और बम्बई इन सब का एक ही जोन बना दिया जाये और गेहूं सभी जगह आ जा सके । वह आप तभी करें अगर फसल की स्थिति अच्छी हो । इसका नतीजा यह होगा कि आज जो कहीं पर भाव ज्यादा होते हैं और कहीं पर कम होते हैं वे नहीं रहने पायेंगे ।

मिलों पर जो आपने रोकें लगाई हैं वे अच्छी लगाई हैं । लेकिन कल माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया कि जनता को जिस भाव पर गेहूं दिया जाता है उसी भाव पर मिल वालों को भी दिया जाता है । मेरा सुझाव यह है कि मिलों को आप दें लेकिन उसी आटे को आप फिर से ले लें तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा । जब आप ऐसा नहीं करते हैं तो साढ़े सोलह पये मन गेहूं आप उनको देते हैं और वे आटे को पीस कर जिस भाव पर चाहें बाजार में बेच देते हैं और मुनाफा कमा लेते हैं....

श्री ब० प्र० सिंह : उस आटे के बिकने की दर मुकर्रर है और उस पर नियंत्रण है।

श्री राजेश लाल त्यागी : अगर उन पर नियंत्रण है और दर मुकर्रर है तो बड़ी खुशी की बात है लेकिन आपको देखना चाहिए इससे बाजार के भावों पर अच्छा असर हो।

अब मैं इम्पोर्टस् के बारे में कुछ शब्द कहना चाहता हूं। इम्पोर्टस करके आप स्थिति पर काबू पाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। लेकिन जो बीमारी है उसका यह इलाज नहीं है। आखिर आज ग्यारह बरस हो गये हैं और इन सालों में बराबर हमारे प्रयत्न चलते रहे हैं और हम कोशिश करते रहे हैं कि यह समस्या हल हो लेकिन यह अभी तक हल नहीं हुई है। हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है। हमारा सारा जीवन और हमारा सारा आर्थिक ढांचा कृषि उत्पादन पर ही निर्भर करता है। फारेन एक्सचेंज भी जैसा बताया गया है दो तिहाई हमें बाहर से इसी से मिलता है। हमारे यहां ७० प्रतिशत किसान हैं और इतना होते हुए भी हम पूरा अनाज पैदा नहीं कर पा रहे हैं, इसका क्या कारण है ? हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने बार बार वक्तव्य दिये हैं, राष्ट्रपति जी ने कहा और देश के अन्य नेताओं ने कई बातें कहीं, कम्युनिटी प्राजेक्टस भी प्रयत्न कर रही हैं, करोड़ों रुपया हम माइनर व मेजर इरिगेशन वर्क्स पर खर्च कर रहे हैं, खाद हम लोगों को देने की चेष्टा कर रहे हैं लेकिन यह सब होते हुए भी ग्यारह सालों में जो स्थिति होनी चाहिये थी वह पैदा नहीं हुई है और हम बहुत पीछे हैं। इस वास्ते कुछ ठोस कदम ठीक दिशा में उठाने की आवश्यकता है और इस पर हमें गम्भीरतापूर्वक विचार करना होगा।

हमारे मंत्री महोदय जैसे मैंने कहा मेहनत कर रहे हैं और काफी प्रयत्न उन्होंने किये भी हैं। लेकिन मैं पंडित ठाकुर दास जी से पूरी तरह से सहमत हूं कि यदि इस विभाग को प्रधान मंत्री जी अपने हाथ में ले लें....

श्री त्यागी : वक्त हो जायेगा।

श्री राजेश लाल त्यागी : वह मेरा विचार है, वक्त होने की कोई बात नहीं है। मैं समझता हूं कि जनता के सहयोग के बगैर देश की खाद्य समस्या कभी हल नहीं हो सकती है। आज देश को सब से वजनदार आवाज रखने वाले नेता की आवश्यकता है। हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी की आवाज में वजन है और लीग पामलों की तरह से.....

Shri Tyagi: Question!

एक माननीय सदस्य : अब वह बात नहीं रही।

श्री राजेश लाल त्यागी : उनके कहने के मुताबिक काम में जुट सकते हैं। आज भी उनमें इतनी बड़ी शक्ति है। आपके खयाल दूसरे हो सकते हैं लेकिन मैं अभी भी मानता हूं कि अगर वह चाहें और काम में जुट जायें तो दो साल में सारे देश की स्थिति बदल सकती है। आज तक जितने भी प्रयत्न किये गये हैं सब ऊपर से किये गये हैं। यहां से राय दी जाती रही है, वक्तव्य दिये जाते रहे हैं, सर्कुलर भेजे जाते रहे हैं और कुछ नहीं हुआ है। मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि जिस से गल्ला पैदा करना है, क्या उससे भी कभी पूछा गया है ? क्या कभी यह जानने की भी कोशिश की गई है कि उसे किस चीज की आवश्यकता है ? मैं चाहता हूं कि उससे पूछा जाये कि उसे क्या चाहिये। जिस तरह से सैंसस होता है और एक दिन में ही सारे देश की स्थिति का आपको पता लग जाता है और सब आंकड़े आप तैयार कर लेते हैं उसी तरह से ज्यादा अच्छा हो अगर कोई ऐसी योजना बनाई जाये कि एक या दो दिन सब गांवों की स्थिति जानने के लिए निर्धारित किये जायें और आंकड़े एकत्र किये जायें और यह पता लगाया जाये कि किसान क्या चाहते हैं, गांवों के लोगों की क्या आवश्यकतायें हैं, कैसे अनाज का उत्पादन बढ़ सकता है उस

दूसरी वस्तुओं का उत्पादन बढ़ सकता है तथा क्या क्या कमियां हैं। इन दो दिनों में आम छुट्टी रखी जानी चाहिये और स्कूल मास्टर, पुलिस वाले, सारे कर्मचारी, तमाम क्लार्क्स सभी को इस काम में भिड़ जाना चाहिये जोप एक प्रोफार्मा तैयार करना चाहिए जिस के मुताबिक तमाम आंकड़े एकत्र किये जायें। इस बात पर खास तौर से जोर दिया जाना चाहिए कि बगैर पैसे से कौन से काम हैं जो किये जा सकते हैं या आसानी से तथा मामली सहायता से हो सकते हैं। इन तमाम आंकड़ों को फिर तेहसीलों में इकट्ठा किया जाये और जब सब आंकड़े एकत्र हो जायें तो उनके आधार पर एक वक्तव्य तैयार किया जाये और इन सब को इकट्ठा करके जिले के लेवेल पर विचार करने के बाद उनको अमल में लाया जाये और एक्सपर्टस इत्यादि सब मिल बैठ कर इस पर विचार करें। यदि ऐसा किया गया तो बहुत जल्दी यह समस्या हल हो सकती है और जो असल स्थिति है वह आपके सामने आ सकती है।

अब रबाई का समय आ रहा है और कल एक माननीय सदस्य, श्री दा० ना० तिवारी जी ने कहा कि उनके यहां बीज वगैरह की बड़ी कमी है। मैं समझता हूं कि बीज की सप्लाई की ओर तत्काल ध्यान दिये जाने की आवश्यकता है। मुझे अपने एक छोटे से अनुभव का पता है। सन् १९४८ में हमारे यहां गेहूं की फसल बिल्कुल नष्ट हो गई थी। हमारे यहां बीज तक बाकी नहीं रहा था। हम लोगों ने पूरे छः महीने तक पूरा प्रयत्न किया, यहां आये, वहां से बीज लिया, उत्तर प्रदेश से खरीदा, पंजाब से खरीदा और जिस भाव मिला उस भाव खरीदा। शायद २२ रुपये मन हम ने इसको पंजाब में खरीदा था। पूरे छः महीने तक प्रयत्न करने के बाद जा कर हमको बीज उपलब्ध हो सका था और इस तरह से एक करोड़ रुपये का जो बीज हमने एकत्र किया वह पांच छः जिलों के लिये ही काफी साबित हुआ और उसको हमें सप्लाई कर देना पड़ा क्योंकि लोगों के पास खरीदने के लिए पैसा नहीं था। इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि अगले साल काफी अनाज पैदा हो गया मध्य भारत में सन् १९५० में। अगर लोगों को अच्छा बीज नहीं मिलता है तो अच्छी फसल की आशा नहीं की जा सकती है। अगर लोगों को बीज मुहैया नहीं किया गया तो कम लोग ही गेहूं बोयेंगे। बीज वहां आपको देना होगा जहां अनाज नहीं है और जहां जो बीज लोगों ने रखा था उसको वे खा गये हैं। आज वे इतने अधिक भाव पर बीज खरीद सकने में असमर्थ हैं। इस वास्ते इस ओर सब से अधिक ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। रबी की फसल के लिए बीज का तत्काल प्रबन्ध किया जाना चाहिये और अच्छी किस्म का बीज सबाये पर दिया जाना चाहिये, लोगों को उधार दिया जाना चाहिये। अगर आपने तकावी दी तो वे उस रकम को किसी दूसरे कामों में लगा सकते हैं। इस वास्ते बीज ही दिया जाये तो अच्छा होगा और खाद्य समस्या कुछ हद तक हल हो सकेगी।

इसी तरह से आपका ध्यान खाद की ओर भी जाना चाहिये। आज आपका ध्यान हरे खाद, कम्पोस्ट पिट्स की तरफ बिल्कुल नहीं है। मैं कम्यूनिटी प्रोजेक्ट एरिया में गया आलाट की, मैं कई गांवों में घूमा, बी० डी० ओ० भी साथ थे उन्होंने मुझ से कहा कि हां, साहब कई जगह पर गड्ढे खोदे गये हैं। लेकिन चार साल तक गांवों में काम होने पर मुझे एक गांव में भी एक गड्ढा नहीं मिला।

एक माननीय सदस्य : जीप से गये या पैदल ?

श्री राधेलाल व्यास : जीप में भी गया था और पैदल भी गया, लेकिन मुझे एक गड्ढा देखने को नहीं मिला। चार साल के काम के बाद अगर यह स्थिति है तो कैसे खाद्य की समस्या हल हो सकती है, कैसे उत्पादन बढ़ सकता है, उन तरीकों से जो कि

[श्री राघे लाल व्यास]

अनाज पैदा करने के आज हैं ? अगर दूसरे देशों में हम से दूना, ढाई गुना अनाज पैदा हो सकता है तो कोई कारण नहीं है कि हमारे यहां ज्यादा अनाज पैदा न किया जा सके ।

हमारे यहा पिछले साल मालवे में ज्वार में जिसे कापडिया कहते हैं वह बीमारी लग गई । मैं ने तब लोगों से पूछा कि आखिर इस का इलाज क्या है तो एक्सपर्ट्स ने बताया कि इस का कोई इलाज नहीं है सिवा इस के कि हम सीड ट्रीटमेंट करें और इस में ऐग्रामन और दूसरी चीजें जैसे गन्धक वगैरह मिलाना चाहियें । मगर हम गावों में क्या देखते हैं ? किसानों से बात करते हैं तो उन में इस का प्रचार नहीं है हालांकि उस से कितना नुक्सान हो जाता है । मैं ने मालवे में देखा ज्वार का बहुत नुक्सान हो गया, लेकिन इस मामूली चीज का, जिस की २ पैसे की पुडिया से आठ या दस सेर ज्वार को ट्रीट किया जा सकता है प्रचार नहीं और इस के लिये कोई प्रयत्न नहीं किया जाता ऐसे कुछ काम हैं जिन में गवर्नमेंट को ज्यादा पैसा खर्च नहीं करना पडता, लेकिन वे भी नहीं हो सकते हैं । ऐसे काम हाथ में लिये जाने चाहियें जिन की वजह से यह बीमारी न हो, और बीज अच्छा हो ताकि फसल का नुक्सान न हो ।

इसी तरह से तकावी देने का सवाल है । यह व्यवस्था स्थायी रूप से भंडारों के लिये कायम हो जानी चाहिये, समान रूप से जिसमें बीज की कमी न रहे क्योंकि आज कल लोगों के पास अच्छे बीज नहीं रहते हैं और न उन को तरीका ही मालूम है कि कैसे बीज को स्टोर में रखना चाहिये ।

इसी तरह से आज हम देखते हैं कि अनाज की बहुत बरबादी होती है । आज गोडाउन्स में उस को रखने का पुराना ही तरीका चलता है लेकिन फिर भी लोगों को इस का शिक्षण नहीं दिया जाता है । उन को इस का तरीका नहीं बतलाया जाता है जिस से सारे देश में काफी बरबादी अनाज की होती है । आप आज रेलवे में सफर करते हैं तो देखते हैं कि वहां भी बहुत वेस्ट होता है । थाली में खाना इतना परोसा जाता है कि कई जगहों पर लोग थोडा सा खाते हैं बाकी खराब जाता है । इसलिये आज देखने की जरूरत है कि अनाज की बरबादी न हो, उस का दुरुपयोग न हो क्योंकि थोडे थोडे से अनाज की बरबादी के होने से हमारे यहा लाखों मन की बरबादी हो जाती है जिसे रोकने की जरूरत है ।

आज जो खेती के जानकार वगैरह हैं, जो विद्यार्थी निकलते हैं कालेज वगैरह से, उनका कोई उपयोग नहीं होता है । मैं देखता हूं कि हमारे यहा जिन्होंने अभी एम० एस० सी० पास किया है ऐग्रिकल्चर में उन को १००, १०० रु० पर नौकर रखा गया है । ब्लाक डेवेलपमेंट एरियाज में दूसरे लोगों को जो कृषि को बिल्कुल नहीं जानते उन को महत्व मिलता है । लेकिन कृषि के जानकारों को और विशेषज्ञों की, जिन्होंने ६, १० वर्ष तक अध्ययन किया है इस विषय का, कोई कद्र नहीं है । इसलिये जहा इतने लम्बे कोर्स हैं, वहा शार्ट कोर्सेज तीन तीन महीने के रख कर के ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोगों को तैयार करना चाहिये और इस के लिये काफी प्रचार करना चाहिये ताकि देश की खाद्य समस्या हल हो और जल्दी देश सुखी हो । हमारी आबादी भी काफी बढ़ती जा रही है और अगर इसी रफ्तार से बढ़ती गई तो कैसे काम चलेगा । जिस तरह से पिछले ११ सालों से लोग बढ़ते रहे हैं अगर उसी तरह से अभी बढ़ते रहे तो हम कुछ भी प्रयत्न करें, हम सफलता नहीं हासिल कर सकते । इसलिये जिस तरह से युद्ध स्तर पर काम किया जाता है, जैसे कि पानी की समस्या को हल करने के लिये फौज को लगा दिया गया और जल्दी से जल्दी काम हुआ उसी तरह से इस मामले में भी सारे देश में युद्ध का सा वातावरण निर्मित करने की जरूरत है और सब स्कूल और कालेजों वगैरह में भी इस की शिक्षा को ज्यादा से ज्यादा

अनिवार्य कर देना चाहिये ताकि लोग इस के महत्व को समझें, लोग अनाज को वेस्ट न करें और हमें ज्यादा से ज्यादा मदद दें ताकि खाद्य समस्या हल हो ।

Shri Venkatasubbaiah (Adoni): The present food situation has been discussed on the floor of the House by many speakers. The White Paper that has been issued by the Food Minister amply states the schemes and the measures that have been taken to get over this food crisis. When there is still in India over 80 per cent of the cultivable land unirrigated, what more can we expect from this Government? Can this Government or anybody anticipate adverse regional conditions or floods in advance? It is well nigh impossible. So, in the present circumstances, the schemes or the plan that has been envisaged by the Government is very well and sincerely meant to avert the food crisis. But I would like to say that there is good formulation of schemes, but in actual implementation they have not been tackled in proper perspective. The people who are put in charge of implementing the schemes, I am sorry to say, are not able to catch the spirit of the day and change according to circumstances.

It is stated that the community development and NES schemes are also put in charge of the food production scheme. When we see the set-up of this NES scheme we have to feel sorry for it. The man who is put in charge of the extension service block is drawn from the Revenue Department. The Revenue Department has a feeling that it is the inheritor of the British steel frame administration, that it must see that more impediments are put in the way of the implementation of the scheme. Even for a small thing, they are interested in getting a big file, putting all sorts of queries, and seeing that the scheme is delayed as much as possible. That is how the man who is put in charge of the food production scheme views the agricultural production in this country. This happens down right to the village level workers.

Unfortunately I happen to be in the selection committee of these village level workers in Andhra State. The qualifications have been prescribed. Only persons who pass SSLC should appear before the selection committee. No other qualifications are needed. He need not come from a village, he need not have seen a field, he need not know what Jowar or rice is. Raw students fresh from high schools are being recruited.

I had the misfortune of interviewing 800 students in a day. What are the questions put to them? Did you pass the SSLC examination the first time? How many cinemas have you seen? What are the dramatic performances you have done in the school? Do you know singing? Such sort of questions are put, and only a minute is allotted for the selection of the candidate—merely seeing through the SSLC registers and selecting them on the strength of the marks obtained. Such are the people who are put in charge of the stepping up of agricultural production in the country. For every group of five or ten villages a village level worker who is supposed to know all the branches of agriculture and veterinary science is put in charge. Such is the machinery that has been set up in these community projects and NES schemes which are meant for the stepping up of production in this country.

13 hrs.

So many irrigation projects have been constructed in this country, huge projects; bigger projects are still under contemplation. But what is the result? Out of 8 million acres of land that is to be irrigated only 4 million acres have been brought under irrigation. So many reasons have been advanced: I can very well understand the reasons put forward. But what is the effort that has been made to overcome these difficulties? It has been said that field channels are to be

[Shri Venkatasubbaiah]

constructed by the villagers. But what is the economic capacity of the villager to construct these field channels? What is the credit you are giving to the farmers? Have you at any time thought about the economic stability or the economic ability of the poor agriculturist? So many schemes have been formulated, but nothing has been done to strengthen the hands, to better the economic ability of the farmer.

It has been said that co-operatives have been started; there are land mortgage banks; there are credit societies. But what is the co-operative law that has been existing in this country? It is out-dated; it is not at all suited to the present day conditions. Though the land is valued at a thousand rupees an acre, if you want to mortgage it, you will not get more than Rs. 100, because calculation is made at pre-war rates. That is in regard to the big agriculturists who own hundreds of acres of land. But what about the small farmer? When he approaches a credit society or land mortgage bank, he is told point-blank that he is not credit-worthy and he cannot be given any amount. What will be his fate? He is the man who actually tills the soil; who works for production and who works for the survival of this nation. Has any attention been bestowed on this matter? He does not have any amount with him to reclaim the land, to manure the land, to step up production. I am, therefore, sorry to say that so far as small farmers are concerned nothing has been done

But compared to the conditions prevailing in 1952-53, we have been able to do something. Today Government can very well say that they have been able to manage the situation. Going back to 1952 you very well know, as you come from the drought-affected areas of Andhra, how gruel centres were run. Hundreds of people, middle class agriculturists who normally would not go to anybody begging had to stand in queues for gruel, for a morsel of food before the gruel centres. The Prime Minister himself came and saw the scene.

Fortunately we are free from that, but still there are many more things to be done. It must be noted that famine protection is as important as food production. Sufficient care should be taken for prevention of famine. Electricity should be made available to places where there are no possibilities of extending irrigation facilities, areas like Rayalaseema and particularly Chittor district where there are hundreds and thousands of wells and land could be irrigated if only electricity is available. These areas can step up production by three-folds and four-folds. A direction should be issued to State Governments that where there are no possibilities of irrigation or construction of reservoirs, efforts should be made for extension of electricity. Attention should also be paid to minor irrigation works, especially renovation of old tanks. In Andhra we have got a peculiar system of tanks. The surplus of one tank flows to fill another tank; in that way not a drop of water is wasted. There are nearly 20,000 such tanks in that area. Government should see that all these tanks are renovated, because they do not involve much expenditure. With less cost, more land can be brought under irrigation. There is no difficulty of reclamation of land, as all these areas were previously being cultivated.

I now come to the question of the Tungabhadra high level canal. The Tungabhadra reservoir was constructed at a cost of more than Rs. 20 crores to ward off famine from the scarcity areas of Rayalaseema. It may be argued that while the target of land to be brought under irrigation and cultivation under the high level scheme has not been achieved, how can we expect the high level canal to be implemented. There are various reasons for the entire land not having been brought under irrigation. The first reasons is that the water rate the surcharge on

land revenue and the betterment levy have been very heavy and people have been very reluctant to pay these. Their economic condition will not allow them to pay all these and bring land under cultivation. Under the Tungabhadra low level canal there is land available, because it will feed many tanks in the district. It will give perennial supply to hundreds of tanks through which thousands of acres are being irrigated. One tank would irrigate about two thousand to three thousand acres of land; but these are purely dependent on the monsoons. If Government were to implement this canal scheme which is only part of the Tungabhadra reservoir shceme, it will go a long way in warding off the famine.

The second important thing is fertilisers. These has been a persistent demand from Andhra for establishment of a fertiliser factory in Andhra. When we ask for a fertiliser factory, we are being accused of provincialism. Is it provincialism to ask for the starting of a fertiliser factory in our State, so that we will be able to produce more and help the country? Is it parochialism to say that we would come to the rescue of India by producing more which would save the Government from importing foodgrains involving crores of rupees every year? Government should therefore come to a decision at an early date to start a fertiliser factory in Andhra.

Then there is the question of pests, to combat which no proper steps have been taken. Every year the agriculturist has to stand and helplessly gaze their year's efforts being damaged by pests. It has been said that research is being done. But with what result? So far it has not yet come to the villager. He does not know how to control these pests. That is another important thing which the Government has to consider.

My third point is about good seeds. It has been said that proper seeds are being distributed. But when? After the sowing season is over; and even then, on many occasions, it could be seen that proper seeds are not being given. I hope these things will be looked into.

A new orientation must be given to our policy, the administration must be toned up, and an effort should be made to see that all these shortfalls are overcome. If these things are done, I am confident that we shall be able to advance further and work for furthering the production of foodgrains in this country.

Dr. Krishnaswami (Chingleput): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the White Paper on food, presented by the Minister for Agriculture, is a candid document, though it is very disturbing. In fact, the intensity of the debate that has taken place on the food situation is proof positive, if any proof were required, of the proposition that truth hurts. I must say that I was very much disturbed by the account that has been given in this Paper. But I take it that Parliament is called upon to suggest alternative measures or possibly fill in the gaps in policy and thus attempt to mitigate the effects of the present situation which truly is deplorable.

It is now clear that our *per capita* availability of foodgrains given in Appendix I of this report is estimated at 13·06 oz, and this has been with us since 1953-54. Since 1953-54, monetary incomes have increased and this has affected both qualitatively and quantitatively the demand for foodgrains. The consumption has shifted from coarse grains to superior grains, and the very increase in money incomes had led, if I may say so, to an increase in demand for foodgrains. Super-added to this was the fact of an increase in population of a million per year, and, therefore, a rise in prices took place. I am not saying that it is inevitable. But certain measures should have been taken.

[Dr. Krishnaswami]

I want also to just mention the disturbing factors, so that we might at least diagnose the situation before we suggest remedies. The other disturbing factor in this situation is that even this per capita availability of 13·6 oz we would not have been able to maintain except on the basis of large imports of food under the aid agreements. Let us, while feeling thankful for the food imports that we have received under the aid agreements, realise that we cannot afford to rely on aid imports in the long run. The aid imports are not sound for two reasons; firstly, they cover up the seriousness of the economic situation, and secondly, they introduce an uncertain factor over which we would have no control whatsoever.

In this connection, I should like to point out that it is wrong to have merely a sentimental objection to the important of foodgrains as such. The sentiment is not well-founded, for, we have to realise that in most countries where real incomes have increased, they have become net importers of food. The United Kingdom, Japan and West Germany are all net importers of food. But we are in an entirely different position, and it is because we are in an entirely different position that we have to view with great concern the increase in imports of food. Unlike Japan or the United Kingdom, we are not in a position to pay for our imports by exports Unlike these countries, where scope for increasing agricultural productivity is limited, we have great scope for increasing the productivity of agriculture. This, in brief, is the tragedy of the present situation. And I would like to suggest that due to our lack of organisation, it is making us part with the most scarce of all the resources, namely foreign exchange. It is our inability to utilise to the full the land potential of our country, that constitutes one of the major problems of our agriculture.

It has, however, to be pointed out that the appraisal estimate made by the Planning Commission contains figures of targets which we have not reached. These targets have been drawn up, I take it, on a conservative basis. None-the-less, we have not been able to reach them, and that itself is a thing which must give us serious food for reflection.

The conclusion that emerges is that our present difficulties are due not to our having what I would call a full and comprehensive agricultural policy. Indeed, the criticism that was made of the White Paper on food was to a certain extent misplaced, because the basic that was made was that the White Paper was not issued on aspects of agricultural policy. We have here a White Paper which is issued on a very limited aspect, namely the food situation. But, non-the-less, we have to take account of agricultural policy, and find out how far there should be modifications in our agricultural policy if we are to get out of the present *impasse* in which we are.

I suggest that the basic problem that we have to face is not one of how to avoid the consequences of scarcity; that may be the immediate problem that faces us, but we have to find out what the real issue that faces us is. The real question ought to be how we can get over the shortage of foodgrains itself In fact, that is a question that has to be tackled. Any set of devices intended for mitigating the effects of scarcity has certainly a useful role in the short run but there seems to be a tendency even on the part of the eminent worthies in the Planning Commission to harp unduly on expediency and forget the real issues of agricultural policy. In short, in a wider context, it is agricultural policy which must have pride of place, and not food policy as such.

As an indication of the manner in which we have concentrated on some of the short-term expedients, I might

refer to the debate that is taking place on the degree of controls, on the full type of controls, that might be introduced in our economy. While I agree that in a temporary emergency, there is a case for controls in port towns or large urban areas, it would be wrong to have it as a permanent feature, and for an excellent reason, for the whole basis of development is that our patterns of consumption should change, ought to change, and would change. We shall be disturbing the very process of development if we think of controls as a permanent measure, if we freeze a particular type of consumption altogether. That is why I suggest that we should tackle this question from the major point of view of agricultural policy.

The White Paper examines the recommendations of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee, and comes to the conclusion that the proposal of a price stabilisation board cannot be accepted. I am in entire agreement with Government on this matter, as I feel that the price stabilisation board would have been a fifth wheel in the coach. It is impossible to think of two authorities determining a policy with respect to prices. Either the Government takes upon itself the responsibility of determining prices or it abdicates that function. From more points of view than one, I am inclined to think that it is the Government alone that should have the responsibility.

While I have no quarrel with Government in emphasising its right to be the final arbiter of policy, there is considerable scope for improving and strengthening the machinery for implementing food policy and more particularly agricultural policy. For instance, year after year, we have been complaining, in good years as well as in bad, that no large-scale procurement is possible because the procurement machinery has not been built up.

It is a matter which has been advanced on several occasions. It has been pointed in several reports, but nothing seems to have been done to improve the procurement machinery significantly. In fact, the White Paper on Food speaks of this matter and suggests that in future we should have compulsory procurement. If we are going to have compulsory procurement—and that is inevitable where prices rise very sharply—we should have at least an adequate procurement machinery. And that seems to be lacking in our present organisational set up.

Again, there are persistent criticisms about the higher costs in Government's storage and distribution policy. It is these areas of executive action that require to be strengthened and galvanised, because by now almost everyone of us is agreed on the broad framework of short-term policy. Now, I should like to point out that the White Paper has two significant paragraphs on distribution and stocks. I should like, with your permission to read that paragraph pertaining to stocks as it throws a clear light on some of the basic assumptions of the Government. The White Paper points out:

> "By properly husbanding the available resources, it has been found possible to build up reserve stocks of about 1·4 million tons of foodgrains with the Central and the State Governments. The availability of adequate stocks with the Government has a salutary effect on the prices of foodgrains in the country and exercises an indirect check on the hoarding of stocks by the unsocial elements".

Now, I ask: is this a correct account of the position? No doubt, stocks in the possession of Government act as a psychological deterrent against people hoarding and attempting to push up prices. But may it not be that we are trying to over-estimate this factor too much? In my opinion,

[Dr. Krishnaswami]

we have had to realise that what has occurred in recent months proves the point that mere existence of stocks is not sufficient. Part of the reason may be that stocks in themselves cannot do the trick. The distributing machinery of fair-price shops have a physical limit for handling the distribution.

In criticism of the Government, it has to be pointed out that most of our fair-price shops are very small in size—ten by twelve feet or thereabouts. They cannot attend to more than about 150—200 customers a day, and the long queues that wait at fair-price shops is proof positive of the limitations on the physical handling of the amount of grain that has to be distributed. Only a certain quantity can be distributed through each shop and the number of shops, according to the estimate given in the White Paper, is round about 41,000. In any event—and I should like to place this matter before the House and my hon. friend, the Minister of Food and Agriculture—where urban consumption is of the order of 25—30 million tons a year, about 2½ million tons a month or thereabouts, unless we are able to distribute half a million tons a year, we are not likely to influence prices in the least. Anything less than that amount would be a waste of Government's resources without necessarily bringing down the prices of these foodgrains. It is this elementary fact that I should like to bring to the notice of the Government.

In other countries where fair-price shops were opened during the war, it was pointed out by successive administrators of the food administrations in those areas that wherever there was a certain amounts of consumption, unless they had 15 or 20 per cent of it on the market, it was not likely to reduce the prices appreciably. No doubt, the hon. Minister can point out that stocks were limited. But even these stocks could have gone a very much longer way if our distribution machinery had been properly organised, if we could have disgorged on the market about half a million tons each month because that would have tended to bring the price down.

Incidently, that has an effect on the procurement price that we pay for our foodgrains, for where the distribution machinery is effective, the prices that we have to pay for procurement of grains would also necessarily be on the lower. I am mentioning these facts because I should like the Minister of Food and Agriculture to devote special attention to this problem of distribution and also to this problem of storage.

Acharya Kripalani (Sitamarhi): They are known to him.

Dr. Krishnaswami: I do not know whether it is known to him, at any rate, the White Paper on Food does not make it clear that he is aware of it I should not wish to say much more on this matter because these are questions which can be dealt with both on the State level and the Central level.

As for long-term policy—and this is really a major policy issue which will have to be considered very quickly by our Government—the basic premise that we have to adopt is that agricultural prices have to have a floor price as well as a ceiling. The floor should aim at preventing distress to the agriculturist and the ceiling must be such that procurement at that price, and its distribution by Government, do not permit the cost of living to go above a certain level. In other words, the food component of the cost of living—and this largely means prices of foodgrains—should not be permitted to move more than 7½ per cent either way.

I have tried to work it out rather fairly and I feel that if it is one anna either this way or that, it is not going to make much difference. Certainly in a period of development, we ought

to be prepared for some rise in costs. But it also ought to be clear that we should keep down the prices as much as possible so that the cost of living does not mount. At the same time, we should assure a fair price to the agriculturist which is taken account of by the floor price that we are going to fix for him.

Now I shall deal, incidentally, with one or two other minor points without elaborating them, as I do not have much time. I was privileged to read only a few days ago a very illuminating article in the *AICC Economic Review* by Lala Shri Ram on subsidiary foods.

13·27 hrs.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*]

I want the Ministry of Food and Agriculture to devote some attention to this problem. One acre devoted to cereals does not yield as much in calorie value as one acre devoted to some of these subsidiary foods. But there have been difficulties in the way of expansion of areas under these various subsidiary foods. For instance, transporation costs have been very heavy in the case of many of these perishable commodities. We have the experience of the United Kingdom where the Potato Board came into serious weather because it did not take account of the perishable factor and of the inclemencies of weather. But somehow or other, many of these difficulties have been countered, and it is best that we should devote some attention to these subsidiary foods. In fact, a great deal of more attention should be devoted by the Ministry to both animal husbandry and the fruit preservative industry in our country. It is much more difficult for a man to shift his consumption from one type of cereal to another than for him to take to these subsidiary foods.

While I suggest that that is a matter on which there should be some tackling and some serious thinking, I am not unaware also of the other difficulties which we are meeting in respect of minor irrigation works. I should only like to point out that there ought to be a great deal more of enthusiasm shown in going ahead with minor irrigation works. Where it is found clearly that land brought under cultivation yields two crops per year instead of one, it ought to be clear that the increase in land revenue obtained by the Governments is a contribution. Which the *royt* is making for the water provided; and I think this is one of the best ways mobilising local resources. I know, for instance, in three of four districts—the districted of Salem, the district of North Arcot, the district of Chingleput and also the district of South Afcot—that there are many spring channels which, if properly tapped, would lead to an increase in the amount of land cultivated and also in the amount of crops. These things have to be pushed through very quickly and what is required is to galvanise the administrative machinery.

My hon. friend will forgive me for referring to certain matters which have struck me as odd. It does happen that sometimes bureaucracy tends to be wooden; but a Minister has to galvanise. In this he has the great example of his predecessor the late Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, an outstanding administrator, who, in the darkest days, never gave up courage and who had the initiative and drive and vision to see to it that we were out of distress. I hope that example will be emulated by the hon. Minister and the next time Parliament meets and discusses this question we will have a comprehensive White Paper on Agricultural Policy and a larger amount of time so that we might throw some light on the different aspects of this complicated question.

Shri A P Jain: I will let you have that.

Shri Thakur Das Malhotra (Jammu and Kashmir): Mr. Chairman, the food situation in the country, of course, is serious and whatever

[Shri Thakur Das Malhotra]

anxiety has been expressed in this House by the hon. Members who took part in the debate is absolutely justified. Measures are to be taken to increase the yield from the land and improve agricultural production. We need to be self-sufficient in this respect because agriculture is our main industry; and, if we do not improve it to the extent that it becomes self-sufficient for the needs of the country, of course, we will be failing in our duty. But, at the same time, we have to see that to meet the circumstances which are prevailing in the country, what have the Central Government and the State Governments done. It is certainly unfair to Government if we do not appreciate the steps they have taken to improve the situation.

Yesterday, one of the hon. Members who took part in the debate made a cursory remark with regard to food situation in Kashmir and said that there was a report of deaths by starvation. I was surprised to hear that. In fact, this report of the hon. Member is absolutely baseless. The facts are otherwise.

The actual position is, last year, there was vast destruction of crops by incessant rains, major floods and untimely snowfall. The destruction was so much that we were deprived of 80 per cent. of the crops we had in that State. You can very well imagine Sir, when such a natural calamity faces a State which is already deficit by about 40 lakhs mds. of foodgrains every year, how grave was the situation for the State to face. But the State Government and the Central Government did not lose even a single minute to be on the spot and take every possible measure to meet the situation. We are very much grateful to Panditji, who himself went to the State and flew over the affected area, and to the Prime Minister of that State, Bakshi Gulam Mohammed, who went to every corner of the affected area. The result was that 35,000 mds. of rice and about 55,000 mds. of wheat were allotted by the Centre to the State. The State Government took every measure to deal with the situation and about 85 per cent. of the population was covered by rationing. In almost the entire valley the ration system was enforced and everybody was supplied the ration.

There were, of course, some allegations made against the State Government by the opposition parties. An enquiry was made and it was found that all these allegations were baseless and most of them were made on political grounds. The State did not fail to take any measure to meet the situation. It is absolutely baseless to say that any death took place in the State due to starvation. It is because of the measures taken by that State that we are now in a position—when the harvest year is about to close in the month of October—to have a bumper crop. We will reduce the imports from the Centre this year substantially.

But, in spite of all this, we are to deal with the food situation with great care and caution. We need finances to improve the conditions, to improve agriculture and to develop the resources of that State. During the First Five Year Plan, the State Government had to spend about Rs. 350 lakhs on the development of agriculture, and an equal amount, of course, has to be spent during the Second Five Year Plan period. With this expenditure, what we have achieved till now is that we have improved the irrigation system of that State and we have been able to bring much of the waste land under cultivation and we have increased the yearly yield since 1953 by about 10 lakhs mds.

We were deficit by 40 lakhs of mds. of foodgrains. We have been able to produce 10 lakhs mds. from our own

lands. That means that we have succeeded in reducing the yearly by deficit by one-fourth. If the Central Government continues to supply the finances and other facilities which are needed to develop the resources of that State, we are sure that within a very short time we will be able to be self-sufficient and will not have to import any foodgrains from the Centre.

There is another difficulty that we have to face there. There are some parts of that State where transport is very difficult. We have to send the foodgrains there and grant subsidies and supply food at cheaper rates. That is also a great difficulty that we have to face. I am sure the Central Government will continue to help us in granting these facilities to continue the subsidy to such *illaqas*.

There is one peculiar difficulty for the State that I must mention here. During the British period there were some agreements made with tha State according to which the State was not entitled to get sufficient water for the canals irrigating her fields. Water flows from the territory of Jammu and Kashmir in Ravi but that State had been deprived of the right to get water from that river Those agreements are still in force and the State Government has to face the difficulty every year in getting water for her canals. My submission to the Central Government is that it should intervene and should go through such agreements which are, I should say, unfair and unjust and undo the wrong done to the State. The State Government should be given sufficient water for her canals so that she may be able to irrigate her area and produce as much as she needs. When such difficulties are overcome by the State Government, I am sure the deficit which we have every year will be made good.

In addition to this I have to make one submission to the Central Government. The peasants need every year some help by way of taccavi loans and others to improve their economic condition. The State Government is not in a position to lend so much money as the peasants need. It has implemented the land reforms; it was the first State to implement the land reforms. But the implementation of the land reforms alone cannot and has not improved the economic condition of the peasant and it has not added to the means of production and to develop agriculture. So, my submission to the Central Government is that Kashmir should always be given a special treatment with regard to the supply of funds to enable that State to develop its resources including those of agriculture.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Mr. Chairman, a Government which cannot solve the food problem has no right to exist. Since independence 16 committees have been appointed to go into various aspects of food problem but today the position remains much worse than when we began. The basic facts of our food problem need not be disputed. The population increases faster than the food supply. One million tons more per annum is the quantity required on account of the increase in population. We get only 13 ounces per adult the calory value of which is only 1300 as against 2600 calories required for a normal man. Various excuses have been given in order to account for this rise in price, the biggest being that the purchasing power of the people has increased and in a country where per capita income is low, any increase in the purchasing power goes to food and so there is a bulge in food prices. With all that, it does not account satisfactorily for the rise in price as I shall presently show from the Government figures themselves.

It has been stated that in 1953, our production was 49 million tons and our imports 2 million tons. At that time there was no cry of food shortage. But in 1957, with 57 million

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tons food production and 3·5 million tons of imports, there is a cry of shortage. How can we account for that? We have been told that there is more demand of food. I refuse to believe that it is the only factor. It may affect to a certain extent but that is not the only explanation which can be given. The correct explanation is that the production figures are not correct. That is the real explanation. It is not that these people started suddenly showing their preference for a better type of cereals; this tendency has been there for the last seven years. Then, how is it that it has been accentuated suddenly? Is it that such a tendency was not there in 1953? The fact is that we are not given correct figures partly because the statistical organisation is not perfect and partly because the officials themselves inflate the figures of production in order to justify the expenditure they are incurring in irrigation projects. So, my charge is that the figures given are not accurate; there is an overall shortage. The machinery for crop valuing is not proper. In Bombay the crop estimate is made in terms of so many annas in a rupee; and we know that over-zealous officials always over-estimate it partly with a view to raise higher revenue and largely with a view to show that the irrigation projects and the money spent on them had been properly spent.

Let us see the measures adopted by the Government: creation of self-sufficient zones, cordoning off deficit areas and some large consuming cities, measures to check speculation, stopping forward trading in foodgrains, restriction on bank credit, fixing wheat quotas to flour mills, opening fair price shops, long term contracts for imports and procurement.

These are only palliatives and let us examine them, one by one, and see how far they are effective. Take the self-sufficient zone. In the southern zone a big surplus State like Andhra takes care only of a small State like Kerala. What is really happening is that from that self-sufficient zone, nine lakh bags of rice were smuggled into 'Sholpur—only one city. We cannot say how much more is smuggled into 'Kolhapur 'Sangli or Statara and other places. So, one big difficulty is that Smuggling takes place on a large scale. If that is so, what happens to your self-sufficient zones and we are told that that it is the keystone of the food policy of the Government. Let us take another fact. When areas are cordoned off, big cities like Bombay have to depend upon fair price shops. What is the position today in Bombay City today? As my hon. friend Shri Asoka Mehta pointed out, the grain that one gets contains a lot of dirt. It is not also adequate in quantity. The fair price shops are merely an eye-wash. Therefore, when a zone is cordoned off, the Government must assume responsibility for supplying that zone. If the hon. Minister looks to the complaint that we made last time, he will find what the position is. It is not that Bombay people are accustomed to having a superior type of grain and they must not make a complaint if they get a little inferior variety. The people of Bombay want no superior type; they want it dirt-free and they want it in proper and adequate quantity. The result has been that any amount of smuggled rice comes into Bombay City Therefore, your basic structure of the food policy, namely, self-sufficient zones and cordonning off cities do not very much help.

Credit squeeze is of course a welcome measure. Stoppage of forward trading in foodgrains is also welcome. But these are not going to solve the problems. The method of distribution may alleviate the position to some extent; it may procure better distribution. But if the water is not in the well, it is not going to come in the bucket. On that principle, our attention must be directed towards food production, and that brings us to the crucial question of price stabilization.

The Ashoka Mehta Committee recommended a Price Stabilisation Board, which would be a policy-making body consisting of representatives of certain Ministries such as Food and Agriculture, Finance, Commerce and Planning; and the Board would examine not only food prices, but prices of all relative consumer and producer goods, and it would also seek to maintain a reasonable and stable price structure of foodgrains and other relative commodities. I can quite appreciate the anxiety of the Government to say that, since the prices of foodgrains and relative commodities are the very basis on which our planned economy must function and develop they are not prepared to abdicate their right to fix the price structure. One can understand that. But may I request the Government to consider this point? I was talking to my friend, Shri Asoka Mehta, and I asked him what precisely the idea was. He says that in order to encourage the agriculturists to put forth their best effort, if before the commencement of a season certain floor prices were fixed so that the agriculturists know that their cost of production plus a small reasonable profit would be made available to them, then they can with full confidence go in and wholeheartedly plunge in in agriculture.

Today, agriculture is depending on uncertain weather. An agriculturist does not know whether at the end of the harvest he will get the minimum price or whether it would be a business in loss. I would like to ask the hon. Food Minister, what are his objections to a floor being prescribed on prices of certain cereals and the agriculturists being assured of that particular price at all costs. If that happens, he has the heart to go in for agriculture because he knows that he is insured against a fall below cost of production. This aspect of the question has to be looked into carefully, though I am at one with Government that Government need not abdicate the authority of determining prices, because price policy is the basic factor of our economy.

There are points to which I would like the hon. Minister to pay attention. For instance, our irrigation projects. It has been noted that so far as major works are concerned, during the First Five Year Plan period 47 per cent only of the physical target was reached at a cost of 92 per cent of expenditure; in the case of minor works 91 per cent of the results were achieved with 63 per cent of expenditure; and in the case of land development 77 per cent of the target was achieved at 75 per cent of expenditure, and the trends are more or less the same during the Second Plan. Therefore, what we have got to do is to arrange priorities; in other words, we must give preference to minor works. I am glad to know that the emphasis is being shifted now to minor works. This should have been done long ago. They give quicker results, and with a comparatively less expenditure a large percentage of the target is attained.

In this connection I would like to invite the attention of the House to the disparity in expenditure. The all-India percentage of irrigated land is 17 per cent. but in the case of Bombay State it is only 5½ per cent. There is regional disparity. Even within the State there is still further disparity—in the case of Maharashtra the percentage is still more. Therefore, a judicious distribution of irrigation expenditure is necessary. Here I would invite the attention of the Food Minister to a pamphlet prepared by my hon. friend, Shri Jadhav, where these facts have been brought out.

Sir, in connection with water rates and failure to have irrigation facilities because of the high rates much has been said. It is shocking that this House, having spent hundreds of crores of rupees in irrigation projects, is told that the agriculturists cannot take advantage of the water supply. We are not here to find out whose

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fault it is, whether it is the fault of the State Governments in not constructing the distributory channels or not. We are concerned with results and not excuses. This House has spent taxpayer's money. This House has a right to ask Government, why is it that all these phases of construction were not properly synchronised. This is defective planning.

What is more, I should say, we are importing foodgrains at a much high price and then subsidising the consumer. Instead of that, could we not supply irrigation water at a lower rate, even at a loss? Instead of subsidising the consumer if the same amount were devoted in subsidising the farmer in the shape of lower rates for irrigation water, I can assure you that half your import problem of foodgrains would have been solved.

Also, there have got to be priorities in the matter of various measures which we take up. It is no use rushing the irrigation projects; we know what failure they have been. Let us examine the figures in this connection. Whereas as a result of expenditure on major and other irrigation works 4·2 million tons more of foodgrains was produced, merely by supply of good seed and fertiliser 3·5 million tons more of foodgrains was produced, which means that with a smaller expenditure on seeds and fertilisers you can get the proportionately larger tonnage than what you get by a larger expenditure on irrigation projects, and that too many years later. Today our requirements are required to be satisfied on the spot.

I would also request the hon. Food Minister to look into new ideas like irradiation of seeds—treating seeds with nuclear radiation. That completely alters the character of seeds. We have been told that radiation is harmful but it has got its beneficial effects also. Our Atomic Energy Department is already experimenting on that. If irradiated seeds are supplied and greater attention is paid, it is possible that we may be able to increase our yield per acre. I doubt whether our Food Ministry has given any thought to it.

Shri A. P. Jain: I may inform the hon. Member that we got some seeds treated, but the results have not so far been fully established.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: If in America the results are satisfactory, it has to be investigated why in our own country the results have not been satisfactory.

Shri A. P. Jain: I did not say that the results were not satisfactory; I said that the results have not been fully established.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: It has been definitely tried in America not merely in the matter of foodgrains but also in the matter of vegetables, and the results have been found to be satisfactory Why is it that in India the results should not be satisfactory? That requires careful scrutiny.

Sir, I am not prepared to lay the blame at the doors of Government for everything that has happend, but when year after year criticism of a particular type is made and the Government is callous towards that criticism, I submit, Sir, the responsibility of the Government is there. False propaganda is carried on among the public. We are told that in the case of the First Five Year Plan cinema slides have been shown in Bombay, that whereas the foodgrain target was 7 million tons we have actually reached 11 million tons. I appeal to the Government to stop giving these inaccurate figures; we have had enough of these false figures. You cannot feed a population on bogus figures, and sooner you realise this responsibility the better.

Shri J. R. Mehta (Jodhpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the food problem is a very wide and complex problem, and I do not think I shall be able to do justice to all aspects within the short time available to me. I shall, therefore, try to touch as many points as I can, and as briefly as possible.

Sir, the basic fact of our food policy and food problem as it has emerged from the debate is that we have failed to solve it. We are a vast country with any amount of land under cultivation and considerable amount of land available to be put under cultivation. We have very big rivers. We have spent crores and crores of rupees on construction of major and minor irrigation works. We have established fertiliser plants. We have been manufacturing fertilisers and giving better seed and better manure to peasants. Yet, how is it, one asks, that we have not yet been able to solve the problem.

14 hrs.

Hon. Members will remember that towards the end of the first Five Year Plan we were told that we had almost attained self-sufficiency, but the very next year, we slipped overnight into a state of deficit and this deficit still continues. Speaking as an independent Member of the House in 1953 I had the audacity to point out that the figures which were given out to us about the steps taken by the various State Governments in the matter of irrigation works and other measures taken in pursuance of the grow more food campaign were exaggerated and that we were not achieving all that we were supposed to have achieved. I still maintain that that position continues and that we are being given exaggerated figures of what is being done by the States.

The official explanation of the deficits with which the House is now familiar runs into several items. Firstly, we are told that Nature is the greatest offender in this respect and that we failed because Nature is not co-operating with us; that there are floods in some parts and famine in some other parts. Then we are told that it is the backwardness of the Indian agriculturists which stands in the way. Thirdly, the slow pace of reform is put forward as an item that comes in the way. Lastly, increase in population is mentioned. My submission is, to lay the blame on Nature is merely begging the question. We pretend to control the floods and we are planning in a big way to construct irrigation works, big and small. Therefore, if we are not able to check the vagaries of Nature, I do not understand what is the meaning in all our planning. It is no use also shifting the blame on to the agriculturists. I am not prepared to believe that the agriculturists will not avail themselves of the opportunities which are afforded to them if they think that they will be profitable to them. But, if water is not made available in time and if seed and manure are not made available in time, or, if the seeds given are not up to the standard, then, we cannot blame the agriculturists if he feels shy of taking advantage of the facilities which the Government provides for him.

Only last week I was talking to a big farmer in my State. He told me that the year before last, while he was able to irrigate 1,500 bighas of land under wheat, last year he could get water only to irrigate 300 bighas. The House will appreciate the mentality or the psychology of the agriculturist if he is handicapped in this manner. My submission is that, as has been stated by an hon. Member, it would be worth-while for the Government to reduce the irrigation rates or even to give water free for a little while, for a year or two, and I am sure if the agriculturist becomes accustomed to it and if he finds it to his advantage, he will be prepared to give even higher rates later on.

I will be excused if I say a word about land reforms, even if I am considered to be reactionary.

An Hon. Member: There may be reactionaries.

Shri J. R. Mehta: I only submit that this question of ceiling on land-holdings is not well-conceived. My apprehension is that if we are putting a ceiling on land holdings up to 30 to 50 acres, then the result will be that we will be driving away the intelligent, the educated and other people with resources, from the land; and what can a man do with 30 acres. If it is 30 acres now, in the very next year it will be reduced to 15 acres and then again to 10 acres, and in the second generation, it may dwindle down to five acres per family. So, my submission is that in redistributing land in this manner, we are distributing poverty and I think perpetuating poverty.

I am aware that we are planning in a big way and we are taking care to set up fertiliser plants and provide good seeds and all that. My submission is that there is need to streamline the administrative machinery and to see that the fertilisers and the seeds reach the agriculturist in time. We are told that there is an idea of introducing shock brigades, some sort of shock brigades, to solve the food problem and to step up the production of the next *rabi* crop. My question is, to whom do we want to give shocks. So far as the agriculturist is concerned, I think he is receiving too many shocks from all directions. Nature gives him shocks every time. Somewhere there are floods and somewhere else there is famine. Then he gets shocks from the administrative machinery also. So, what I feel is, nobody wants a shock treatment. It is the administrative machinery which deserves such a treatment.

I would like to emphasise this fact. In whatever we might do in order to step up food production, there is one important factor which needs the attention of this hon. House, and it is this. Unless we raise the standard of our agriculturists or create in them a craving or a desire for a high standard of living, we are not going to spur them on to greater production, whatever else we might do. If you analyse the figures of all the States, you will find that production is greatest where the standard of living of the agriculturist is the highest.

I would like to say a word about the zonal system. Rajasthan has been included or has been bracketed with Bombay. The result is that we have 800 villages which are affected by scarcity and that has only helped to increase the difficulties of Rajasthan. Basically I am opposed to this idea of zones, and as has been pointed out by several Members in this House, it creates artificial difficulties. It is not fair to the consumer as well as the producer. We were told by my hon. friend over here that the rates of foodgrains in Punjab are almost half of what they are in Uttar Pradesh. So, my submission is that everybody in India has a right to get food at almost the same price and to get the same price for his produce. In the Constitution also, there is a provision that all barriers and handicaps or movement of goods from one State to another should be taken away. We had these barriers in the States and we were compelled to remove them. I do not see why there should be a barrier on the movement of foodgrains from one State to another now. I could understand this state of affairs in an emergency, but I cannot understand this as a normal feature of our policy.

Dr. P. Subbarayan (Tiruchengode): Many many years ago, the Member then in charge of Finance said that the Indian budget was a gamble on the monsoon, but we have now reached a situation when our food problem is really a gamble on the monsoon. Unfortunately our friend, the Minister for Food, has had three bad successive years and the result is that we are in the position we are in today. Our foreign exchange position has come down and the importation of food means foreign exchange which means less development; and unless we can

develop in the manner we want, especially with regard to irrigation sources, our food supply becomes less.

I want to deal specially with the land ceiling which we have heard of very often. The Planning Commission has said that land ceiling should be established in all States. I wish some decision is taken in this matter, because the landlord who is in possession of the land is not willing to spend any money on fertilisers, etc. to help the tenant, since he does not know where he is going to stand with regard to the ceiling when it comes. The tenant, on the other hand, has not got the wherewithal to supply himself with modern conveniences that are necessary for food production in this country. If you take the irrigated area in Andhra, which is very much under the canal system, and compare it with the Gangetic plain, the amount of food production per acre is much less in the Gangetic valley than it is in the Andhra area. When difficulties arise, we say that we produce the least amount per acre in this country compared to other countries. Why this should be so is a problem which has got to be tackled. What really happens is, we produce many demonstrators, graduates, etc. but the knowledge they acquire does not go down to the agriculturists in this country. Unless you can make this modern knowledge go down to our peasant population, in spite of all the talk we have about increased production, we will never get it. The peasant should understand what modern conditions are. I think the peasant population in this country are equal to the agriculturists you find anywhere in the world, but because of this lack of knowledge, lack of modern scientific application, we lack in production. I would like the Government really to take note of this.

There are model farms all over the country in various places, but what happens in the model farm is not really known to the ordinary tenant farmer.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi (Hamirpur): They are not economic.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: My friend say they are not economic. But you should tell the ordinary peasants what the modern methods are and how they can be applied. Of course, they are not economic because if you want to use modern implements like a tractor or motor plough, you have to have a larger extent of land than what is available to the ordinary tenant farmer. Perhaps co-operative farming might be a solution to this problem where modern methods could be used, because large-scale production could be done economically only if you have a farm of 100 or 150 acres. On the one side, you want to give land to the cultivator; on the other side you talk of having co-operative farming.

Shri Ranga: Managers and supervisors.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I know my friend, Shri Ranga, is interested, in the agriculturists and the kisans, but I do not know whether he has found a solution for the difficulty that arises with regard to large-scale farms or small farms. Unless we can find a remedy for this, we may not be able to produce as much as we want. We complain, we theorize that production in this country is lowest in the world, but we do not go down and find out why it is so. Unless we can tackle this problem in the proper manner, the food position will remain as it is today.

As I said, we gamble on the monsoon. There is no doubt about it, because in spite of all the irrigation sources that have been built up, still most people in the dry areas like the area I come from, depend on the monsoon. There is a Tamil saying "*Manam parthu vazhinrom*" meaning "We live by looking at the sky". My friend from Andhra talked of the vast tanks which are neglected. There are some in my area, but I never see any water in them for the last seven or

[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

eight years. They exist even now, but most of them are going into disrepair, because no water is stored and nobody thinks of keeping them in order. So, unless these minor irrigation sources are attended to and some attempt is made to see whether some rivers could be directed in such a manner that these minor irrigation sources could be filled up, we will be where we are, in spite of all the attempts that are being made. I do not wish to blame the hon. Minister for Food and Agriculture. But he must realise he has got to take it as he finds it but I want him to be alert and do his best. But the trouble is, we theorize and do nothing in practice.

Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal): Mr. Chairman, this white paper is the most provocative document that I have had the misfortune of coming across in recent month. This document reminds me of something called white lies When I examine some of its conclusions in the light of reality and experience, I find it is a cruel joke on the hungry, the unfed and the underfed. It does not assuage; it only provokes. It does not sympathise; it only excites. It rubs salt into the chilblains of hungry stomachs. The sooner we have a more sympathetic attitude for our hungry millions than issuing such callous statements giving out figures which do not have any basis in reality, the better it will be. At least the people will have the feeling that the Government may not give them food, but atleast they have sympathy.

The story is long, but the time is short. One may go on talking about the acts of commission and commission of the Agriculture Ministry without exhausting oneself, but the time is limited. If we examine this document, we find the pattern which has been delineated by the aid of statistics. We find the population has increased; we find the demand is going up; the people's purchasing capacity is also increasing. Therefore, what is the need to shout about? That is the scheme of things. It underlines, the facts, that the purchasing capacity of the people is increasing, food demand is increasing and the population is increasing. And what has the Agriculture Ministry been doing? It is doing its best. Therefore, there should be no shouting about.

But if we examine these assertions in the light of reality and experience, what do we find? I will not rely on my own findings or my own conjectures. I should like to confine my remarks to the documents which have been circulated by the Government Here is a document "Appraisal and Prospects of the Second Five Year Plan". But we, the Members of Parliament, have not been considered fit to receive this document from the Planning Commission, even though this document has been circulated throughout the country. I could get a copy of it in my capacity as a newspaper Editor, but not as a Member of Parliament. Now, if the Members of Parliament had any occasion to go through the analysis of the achievements in our agricultural sector, then possibly most of the speeches that we have heard would have been more bitter, more scathing and more frank. What do we find? These are the findings:

> "Large outlays incurred on agriculture has not been reflected in increased production."

The increase of 2 to 2·5 per cent per annum is not sufficient to support a large plan of economic development. The hon. Minister owes us, owes this House, a reply as to why the increased expenditure in agriculture has not been reflected in the increased production. No effort has been made to increase the yield in irrigated areas. In this context it will be useful to compare the conditions obtaining in this country with another country, namely, China. In China the cultivable land is much less than what we have in India. In China the population is twice the size of population of India.

But it has to be remembered that China is today exporting foodgrains outside whereas we are importing These are the figures, and these figures have been taken from a very conservative economic journal, the *Eastern Economist*, Annual Number, 1957 The figures are in hectares. In India the total cultivable land was 153 5 million hectares in 1955-56 whereas in China it was 110 2 million hectares When we analyse the rate of progress what do we find? The increase in India between 1949-50, the first year of the First Plan, and 1955-56, the beginning of the Second Plan, the percentage of increase in irrigated area is ·2 per cent Out of 138 4 million hectares in India, 20 2 million hectares were irrigated in the beginning of 1948-49 In 1955-56 the net cultivated area was increased to 153 6 million hectares and irrigated area to 22 8 million hectares, the net increase being 2 per cent. What about China? In China the increase between 1949-50 and 1955-56 is 3 per cent Out of 97 9 million hectares, 20 3 million hectares were irrigated But in 1955-56 the net cultivated area increased to 110 1 million hectares and the irrigated area to 26 1 million hectares The Government of India owes an explanation in this regard why in spite of all the emphasis that has been laid on irrigation, both major and medium, the area brought under irrigation is not commensurate with the expenditure incurred When we analyse the productivity what do we find? In China, in 1955-56, the productivity for irrigated area in pounds per acre was 2,580 and for India only 1,680 When it comes to unirrigated areas, it is 1,290 in China and 840 in India These are the realities, hard realities which cannot be avoided by any kind of jugglery Let the Government remember that hunger is hardly assuaged by platitudes

Since so much has been talked about the increasing productivity, may I seek the indulgence of the House to point out one of the singular irresponsible acts of the Government of India. Let me come to seed farms. In the Second Five Year Plan we were told that the programme of establishing seed farms would be expedited. Now what do we find? The number of seed farms established during 1956-57 was only 343, as against the plan target of 4,185

Shri A. P. Jain: No

Shri Mahanty: The hon Minister says "No" I will invite his kind attention to page 43 of "Appraisal and Prospects of the Second Five Year Plan", para 7 It states:

> "The number of seed farms established during 1956-57 was 343 against the Plan target of 4,184"

Shri A. P. Jain: I thought the Member was referring to the Plan target for 1956-57

Shri Mahanty: No Well, we are in the third year of the Second Five Year Plan If the Minister is capable of achieving a miracle of the Arabian Nights I have no quarrel with him. But these are the achievements But the most callous thing is that, land has already been acquired for 4,185 seed farms I would like to know from the hon Minister what is the total extent of land that has been acquired for these farms and why these farms have not been set up Now there is neither cultivation, nor production, nor seed farms, and the tenants are neither here nor there but in the purgatory irresponsibility of the Ministry that has imposed this on them

Now the next thing is the irrigation potential created through major and medium irrigation schemes We would like to know why no steps have been taken to create irrigation potential and to utilize this potential in terms of increased production The minor irrigation schemes have been neglected In this context, I would like to remind the hon Minister of what he said on 4th July 1958, in Hyderabad.

[Shri Mahanty]

He said that 25,000 tanks were out of use in Andhra, Kerala, Mysore and Madras. He said that only 18% of the plan allocation of Rs. 35 crores under Community Development for minor irrigation has been spent during the 21 months up to the end of 1957. He said further that there was scope to increase the yield per acre by 300 to 400 per cent. according to foreign experts. We would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what stops him from increasing the yield.

I have not the time at my disposal, otherwise I would have shown how the irrigation potential that has been created by both major and minor irrigation projects has not been utilised for increasing production. I will not dwell upon that negative aspect, but we hope the hon Minister will try to satisfy us on this kind of blatant failures of the Ministry

I have one concrete suggestion to make and I will end. There has been an awareness and a recognition of the fact that food prices are rising, the demand is rising while the purchasing capacity is going down. What do we do about it? Much has been said about control I will invite the attention of the hon. Minister to what the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Dr. B. C. Roy, has said on this subject Dr. B. C Roy is reported to have told the representatives of the Price Increase and Famine Resistance Committee, Calcutta, that nothing short of physical control would be sufficient to deal with the situation created by the soaring prices. The existing laws do not empower the State Governments to take any effective steps in this direction. Now, by and large that is the complaint of most of the State Governments. We would like to know what stops the Government of India from empowering the State Governments or from enabling the State Governments for checking the soaring food prices. The figures which have been given in this document are very misleading. It has been said that in Orissa the floor price of rice is somewhere about Rs. 14 a maund and the ceiling price somewhere about Rs. 18 a maund, but actually rice is selling even for more than Rs. 25 a maund. So, what are you going to do about it? The purchasing power is going down and you just cannot....

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri Mahanty: I will wind up just in a minute.

It is not like injecting glucose injections by which you can keep up the *metatalism of* blood. You cannot infuse the purchasing power in society just by an injection. Here, the food prices are going up and the purchasing capacity is going down, whatever you may state in your documents. Therefore, it is high time that some definite and concrete steps are taken to check these rising prices and some more definite steps are taken to increase our food production.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (New Delhi): I am grateful to you, Sir, for giving me a chance to speak. I know many hon Members are anxious to speak on this very important subject of food shortage in the country and I can tell you that some of us have made a great contribution towards the food shortage problem by not having our lunch and waiting here to get a chance of saying a few words

I have read this white paper with great care that it deserves and I must frankly say that I am disappointed It is very scrappy and a very inadequate document. I think it hardly deserves to be called a white paper But we take it for what it is worth as a statement on behalf of the Government about the present food situation.

Perusing this document we unavoidably come to the conclusion that the authorities have no price policy worth

the name. The price is determined by the exigencies of the situation rather than by Government action which has a stabilising effect on the fluctuating prices of grains. Then, this paper admits that the rise in prices is due to the shortfall in production. The production has gone up by 20·5% in the previous year but this year it has come down by 10%. Now, how does the Government propose to meet this situation? Among other things, the main step that the Government proposes to take is to have additional imports. One million ton is expected to be received against existing programmes of imports and fresh agreements are to be made with USA.

Then the other very important method is by controlling distribution by having fair price shops. This document tells us that 41,000 fair price shops are in existence and through these shops attempts are being made to distribute cheap grain to the people. How the fair price shops are working. how much of the grain distributed goes to the hoarders, how many of these shops are not supplied with grain, about that I will say a few things towards the end.

This paper tells us that the main causes for the rise in prices are three —vagaries of nature, floods and failure of rains. I am afraid that such vagaries will be with us for ever. In an underdeveloped country we can always plead the cause of vagaries of nature. but in a more civilised country, in a more developed country human efforts always circumvent the vagaries of nature. By human efforts and human ingenuity and intelligence we have to find methods by which we are not dependent on the vagaries of nature for our agriculture. For the last eleven years we have been hearing of great steps taken in order to free our agriculture from the vagaries of nature.

Secondly, we are told that the purchasing power of the people has increased, hence this food difficulty I can appreciate that there have been certain changes in the eating habits of people. Certain class of people want better kind of meals but totally there is no increase in food consumption. What is the value of the real income? As far as I know—I am not an economist; I move among poor people; I move amongst middle-class people—I can tell you that among the poor and middle classes eating has not increased If anything, it has decreased because the price of food is very high. It has also been proved that the middle class people are in distress by the fact that there have been very heavy withdrawals from Savings Banks. That proves the distress of the middle class. If they are in distress if they have no money to buy food, attributing the shortage of food to greater consumption by people of this country fails to impress me.

Thirdly, in this paper no explanation has been given for the sudden rise of prices of food between January and July 1958. We do not know why this rise has taken place.

The Government should realise that the food problem is the biggest problem that is facing India today. I personally feel that the problem of Pakistan, the problem of Kashmir is not as serious as the problem of food. Independent India is going to rise or fall on our ability to solve this food problem. We cannot build this country if the nation goes hungry. Therefore we must treat it as a national emergency and try to see how we can solve this problem.

In the last eleven years much propaganda has been made, much literature has been produced—we are flooded with literature to show how production is increasing—great attention has been focussed on this subject. We cannot deny it. We have had eight years of planning, but after 8 years of planning our food position remains more or less the same. Again after 8 years of planning in meeting the food deficit the main method

[Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani]

before us is that of importing food Acute foreign exchange difficulty is before us. I should have thought when we started immediately after independence our position was better because at that time at least our foreign exchange position was not as bad as today. Committee after committee have emphasised the need for increasing food production. We can meet this problem of food....

Shri Asoka Mehta: Since the achievement of freedom 16 committees have been appointed and they have reported.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Shri Asoka Mehta, who knows about this more than me, says that 16 committees have been appointed and each committee, I am sure, has emphasised the need of greater food production to meet the food difficulties of this country. We are a vast country. We have vast manpower. Large tracts of land are available. Mighty organisations have been set up in this country under NES, CPA and the Food and Agricultural Departments of the Central and State Government and swarms of officials are moving all over. Crores of rupees have been spent. What is the net result? The net result is that our agricultural production has not increased appreciably. There is no proportion and no ratio between the expenditure and the return.

Agriculture is sought to be improved by various methods. I do not wish to go into all the details because time is short. I would only take one item which is considered to be the most important factor in improving the agriculture of this country, i.e., irrigation. Crores of rupees have been spent on minor and major irrigation projects. But, a substantial portion of the water available from these sources is not utilised because of the highly defective water rate policy of the State Governments. In State after State, peasants are unable to take advantage of the water because the water rate is too high. If the water rate is lower, some of them can take the water.

I would like particularly to draw the attention of the Minister to certain difficulties and certain problems that have arisen side by side with the development of irrigation schemes. I do not know whether the Minister is aware of the fact that in the U.P. alone, because of the inefficient and thoughtless manner in which the department is run, the U.P. Tubewells show a loss of Rs. 3½ crores. Bihar condition, I am told, is equally bad I am unable to get the Bihar figures and so I cannot quote them.

Shri Kamal Singh (Buxer): It is even worse.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: The gentleman says that the Bihar condition is even worse We are spending money Irrigation schemes are launched We are trying to irrigate the lands. What is the result? How much of that water goes to the fields in order to increase our food production?

In Punjab, which is one of our best States from the point of view of food production Between 1948 and 1957, waterlogging has extended to 4 to 5 million acres of land Today, it appears there are about 8 million acres of land in Punjab suffering from waterlogging On one side canals are opened and irrigation schemes are advanced. On the other side, land is getting destroyed and devastated by waterlogging These are problems which come side by side with your irrigation schemes. A close watch has to be kept on them.

Here is a report on the Chambal Project. This report also gives a similar warning regarding Rajasthan. I would not like to waste the time of the House by reading it in extenso. I

would only refer to page 31 where it is stated:

> "It seems difficult to believe that in the long run, the proposed canal irrigation unless special precautions are immediately taken, would prove anything but a curse for this area, especially as cultivators, in their anxiety to get water for rabi crops, are likely to think only of their short-term interest".

There are other similar passages. I am not quoting all. This shows that whatever work we are doing, and the large sums of money that we are spending, do not benefit the people, do not go to the land and increase production to the extent it should.

If we were really serious about increasing agricultural production, we must not think in terms of running the department merely on the initiative of the officials of the various departments small and big officials whom we find all over the country. It is a very top-heavy method and it does not yield the results. If we really want this country to produce more, it has to become a national effort. The initiative has to go from the Central officials, from the departments to the land. We want this effort to be decentralised. The peoples' initiative should be evoked in order to carry on this work on a better footing.

Who are the people best fitted to do this work? We have heard lots about the Community project. We have heard a great deal of what they are trying to do. I would just remind you about the Balwant Rai Committee report. We find that in the CPA—NES they had done everything, except agricultural writ. Agriculture is the only scheme which is found lagging behind, if you want really to achieve something, you should activise the panchayats which are the lowest units at the rural level. If the panchayats are given sufficient powers, if the panchayats are given sufficient help to assume the leadership in agricultural production, I am sure much can be done. In this Evaluation Report, page 99, it is said:—this is the ideal of the functions of the panchayat—

> "The existence of an agency at the village level which could represent the entire community, could assume responsibility and provide the necessary leadership for implementing development programmes was considered essential for progress in rural development."

It further says:

> "Indeed rural progress depends entirely on the existence of an active organisation in the village which can bring all the people —including the weaker sections mentioned above—into common programmes to be carried out...."

The same report says that the Government has not utilised the panchayats for the purposes for which they were intended

About distribution of food, I will say a few words. We were told that 41,000 fair price shops are there. I have said that in these 41,000 fair price shops, we should find out how much of the grains distributed go to the hoarders and how many of the shops actually receive the supposed amount of grain released to them I cannot speak for the whole of India. I can say a few words about Delhi. Here I have a representation from the dealers of the fair price shops. They say that Delhi used to have 600 fair price shops. Two months back, these 600 fair price shops were closed and 27 shops only were selected.

Shri A. P. Jain: All of them have been closed.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: That is what I want to say. All of them have been closed. What method is the Government adopting to keep down the prices of grains in Delhi, I would like to know. One hundred chakkis received a quota of 50 maunds of wheat weekly, on the understanding that they will sell atta at Rs. 15-8-0. This has also been withdrawn and the price has gone up to Rs. 18. We should see what exactly we are doing in order to keep the prices down, what exactly we are doing to increase production. I believe unless production is increased, notihng can solve this problem.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Bhagavati from Assam. Is he in the House?

Several Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Chairman: Shri C. D. Pande.

Shri C. D. Pande (Naini Tal): Mr. Chairman, Sir. I am thankful...

Shri Tyagi: He is from the U.P.

An Hon. Member: From the Congress; not the U.P.

Shri C. D. Pande: I have been listening very carefully....

Some Hon. Members: Shri Bhagavati is standing, Sir.

Shri C. D. Pande: Having begun, I may continue, Sir.

Mr. Chairman: I did not see the member standing. I have now called Shri C. D. Pande in the belief that the hon'ble Member was not in the House. After Shri C. D. Pande, he will be called.

Shri C. D. Pande: Mr. Chairman, I have been listening with great care and attention to the speeches delivered for the last two days. Indeed it is a great problem before the country. If the people are very harsh and severe in their criticism, we can understand it because everybody who goes to his constituency and manages his family finds it difficult to cope with the present prices of foodgrains. At the same time, if we analyse what suggestions were made by the different Members, most Honourable and able Members, we will find that there is grievance, there is resentment, there is even anger. But, all of them have got opposite reasons or contradictory reasons for that anger.

I take, first of all, Shri Asoka Mehta. He was the Chairman of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee. He has got a fund of information at his command and he speaks very well. But, I think the suggestions that he made had no bearing at least on one point with regard to the situation that prevails today. He said, and along with him, Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi said, and Shri Bharucha said today that floor prices must be maintained, must be declared, otherwise, the people will not grow anything because they are in uncertainty. This is the last moment in these days to speak of floor prices. We are already in the ceiling. This is not the occasion, when wheat is sold at Rs. 20 or Rs. 22, to speak of floor prices. Of course, if the prices fall to the level that they fell four years ago, Government will take care that the floor is maintained. I can say, in this country, never the Government should allow the prices to fall below Rs. 13 and never should the Government allow the prices to go beyond Rs. 16. On the one hand, we have a responsibility to the producers of foodgrains. We cannot ignore the vast number of consumers. They also exist. Many people think that only the city dwellers are the consumers. They are only consumers whose interests we pay attention to because they are clamouring. Everybody is saying because the city-dwellers are clamouring, they get the best of it. Have you tried to analyse the figures of our people who purchase foodgrains? Even those who remain in the rural areas like the agricultural labourers have to purchase grains. Only a certain class of people who

have surplus and who sell are the sellers, and the rest of the community in the country, whether living in the towns, smaller places or semi-urban areas or even in the villages, are purchasers. Therefore, to think that the producer does not get a square deal and the consumer is getting all the benefit of it is rather a wrong statement because the surplus producers who sell the grains are only 30 per cent in the whole country. No doubt they should get the best price because without incentive they cannot grow, but what is the crisis today? The crisis today is because it is being sold at Rs. 20 or Rs. 22 a maund, otherwise there is no crisis. If it were selling at Rs. 16 or Rs. 17, the crisis would not have existed.

Ch. Ranbir Singh (Rohtak): The crisis is in spite of import.

Shri C. D. Pande: I will come to that.

The crisis is there because there is high price, the crisis is there because people cannot afford to purchase at that cost.

Our Chairman himself, Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, spoke very vehemently and with great eloquence about the hideousness and injustice of importing foodgrains. His suggestion to the Food Minister was that it was really a barter of the blood of this country for getting foodgrains from outside. I say it is very good as rhetoric, but it does not go far enough with those who have the responsibility of feeding this country. Can any Food Minister today take the risk of not importing a single foodgrain from foreign countries even though it may be bad, even though it may make us paralysed for a long time? Who is the man, Shri Asoka Mehta or Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, who would say that the Food Minister should not think of importing foodgrains?

Look at the contradications. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri says why did you not take the precaution of importing earlier? You should have known that we may have to import four, six or eight million tons, you have imported only 2½ million tons. You should have taken care to import eight or ten million tons.

14.53 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair.*]

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri says why did you not import and at earlier times, while Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava says you are living in sin in importing foodgrains from outside. Then there is Dr. Subbaroyan who says a ceiling on land should be declared, otherwise the landlords are in terror. Shri Ranga will say, if he has not said so, it is blasphemous to say landlords should be maintained, co-operatives should be there. These are contradictory suggestions. Some of them may be very good, but if the Food Minister is to act on one, then he has to displease the other. The one is perhaps as able a Member as the other.

Of course, I do not plead for the department saying everything is well with the department. There are so many things. Shri Asoka Mehta said in support of Shrimati Kripalani's thesis that 16 committees were appointed to grow more food. I say no committee is necessary to impress on this country that we should grow more food. This is self-evident. There are many things like that. There should be more fertiliser, there should be more irrigation facilities, cheaper water rates. That everybody knows. These self-evident truths and axioms do not require repetition, but the country is so vast, so primitive in its methods of agriculture and it has got many other problems and we may not have been able to make as much headway as we would like, but do you think that nothing has been done?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: (Firozabad): Nothing has been done.

Shri C. D. Pande: Then I will tell you. In 1952-53, 58 million tons were produced. After two or three years this became 68 million, again it became 62 and 63 million, either because of the vagaries of nature...

An Hon. Member: Vagaries of the weather

Shri C. D. Pande: Weather also, but if one year's figure is wrong, then all figures are wrong for comparative purposes. It may be it was only 59 million and not 62; then in the other years it was 57 and 52 millions Even with the wrong figures you can deduce something. The year that suits your purpose for your argument you say is correct, the year it does not suit your purpose you say it is wrong That is not proper I know in this country where our statistics are so backward, the census is not correct, the figures are not always correct At the same time to take one year's figures as correct and to say the other is not correct is not a very helpful attitute, is not a scientific attitude.

There are many problems in this country which we have to face The real problem in this country, the biggest problem is that of population. If the Government is guilty of not producing more food, they are more guilty of not following a policy of getting less children in this country. There is the tremendous problem of population.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why should there be a surprise? Children and food are connected.

Shri C. D. Pande: In this country people say that foodgrains are not produced because of gambling on the monsoon. Food may not be produced owing to failure of monsoon, but children come all right. They do not wait for the monsoon. Therefore, let us be clear what is the problem we are faced with. You think this year it has been harder, but I tell you like the foreign exchange difficulties, the food problem will continue in this country for at least five to ten years.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: So long as this Government exists.

Shri C. D. Pande: That may be. The Government will solve this problem, there is a possibility. At the same time, to give a rosy picture that next year we will not import foodgrains, I think, will be deluding the country.

The population goes on increasing. What is the rate of the increment? Fifteen per cent. It was 12½ per cent in the previous decade, now it is likely to be 14½.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What is the death rate?

Shri C. D. Pande: This is the net surplus.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member addresses the Chair, there would be no difficulty.

Shri C. D. Pande: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, the increase in population is so tremendous, that even if you increase the production of foodgrains by ten or twelve per cent....

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Hissar): Is the Government not responsible for stopping the increase in the population?

Shri C. D. Pande: Government is responsible for so many things.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The interruption also may be addressed this side.

Shri C. D. Pande: When the problem is so gigantic, people should have patience. After all, it is not a mechanical process that you produce foodgrains. It is not like producing cement or cloth. It requires good luck, having good rainfall, at the same time fine irrigation, nice fertilisers, all put together and sowing and reaping, all

in time. At the same time, there is another feature which is beyond man's control. It is said by many Members, for instance Shri Bharucha said that in other countries people have controlled rain, have controlled the weather.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I never talked of controlling the weather.

Shri C. D. Pande: I know the United States has got an atomic submarine. Many things have been done in other countries. We are not in a position to apply all those scientific methods by which other countries have solved their food problem. Our food production is very low, that is admitted, but at the same time to bring it to the standard of Denmark or Germany or even of Egypt where the production is almost thrice ours per acre in wheat, reaching that standard of production cannot be done overnight. Therefore, we have to be patient, and we must make efforts. Efforts are being made.

Shri Asoka Mehta (Muzaffarpur): The per-acre production in U.P. is going down.

Shri C. D. Pande: If it is going down at times, it is because of drought. If there is a drought till the end of June or early July and continuous floods afterwards, and that for three years continuously, no Food Minister in this country can be successful. Only Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava was rather harsh in saying yesterday that only first-rate men in the country should take up the food portfolio. Of course, everybody thinks that if the Prime Minister takes up the food portfolio, in the next few years things would improve. It may be that the best men are available for the portfolio in the States, but the problem is so gigantic that even the Prime Minister will not promise you that everything will be all right next year, if he takes up that portfolio.

15 hrs.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Then, everything will have been done.

Shri C. D. Pande: It requires time, whosoever may take that portfolio. It requires good luck also. Shri Kidwai was the only lucky person, in whose times, there were two successive good crops, and he had the boldness of imagination to do away with controls, and he did that. But, suppose he had not been aided by the good luck of nature's bounty, and instead of Rs. 14, the price had shot up to Rs. 25 when he controlled food prices, what would have been the position? But it proved well. So, every credit goes to him. At the same time, we should not believe that because a certain thing was done at a certain time, it will prove successful or efficacious at all times. That is not correct.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon (Mukandapuram): Is it a game of chance, according to you?

Shri C. D. Pande: Then, my hon. friend said that if Shri A. P. Jain gave it up, it would be better. It was rather harsh, and it should not have come from a senior Member like him.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I never said that. It is entirely wrong to suggest that I said that. I never said anything personally against Shri A. P. Jain or any other Minister.

Shri C. D. Pande He said that only third-raters and seventh-raters are appointed as Food Ministers.....

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: That is my view.

Shri C. D. Pande:....and not first-rate men. That is true.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: That is true?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am entirely being ignored. I have that complaint. I have requested the hon. Member to address the Chair.

Shri C. D. Pande: Finally, I have to make two suggestions, and one of them will be in the nature of a grievance.

[Shri C. D. Pande]

So far as sugar prices are concerned, the Food Minister has controlled the price at Rs. 36 for the quality of sugar known as D-29, which is rather scarce, and which is available in a very small quantity as compared to D-28 and other qualities. To fix the maximum price for a quality which is not available in the market results in bringing the price of the lower quality up to that level. Therefore, what is happening today is that though the price is fixed on the basis of D-29, yet even D-28, D-27 etc. are selling at the higher price. That is the tendency in the market. Wherever there is controlled market, if you fix price for the better quality, then the worst quality takes the price that you fix. Therefore, my suggestion is that D-29 which forms only ten per cent of the whole production should not be the basis for fixing the price; it should be some other quality.

Then, there is one thing more. After all, why is it that you fix the price at Rs. 36? You have done so because you felt that sugar can be produced at Rs. 36 a maund. But the consumers are not getting it at that price. Even after fixing this price, though you have curtailed the prices as far as sugar mills are concerned, you have not been able to do anything as far as the retail market is concerned, and sugar is being sold at Rs. 1-1-0 per seer everywhere, even in Delhi. Shrimati Subhadra Joshi had to open a special shop where sugar can be sold for a lesser price. So, if you provide sugar to the retailers at Rs. 36 a maund, then you must tell them that it is their duty to sell it at below one rupee per seer. To take anything beyond Re 1 is rather unjust, and the purpose of controlling prices is not then achieved. If the sugar mills are selling it at Rs. 36, then it should be possible for the consumers to get it at not more than Rs. 40 a maund. That is my submission.

Shri Bhagvati (Darrang): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it was said that Germany lost the first world war in the kitchen front. So, we should be careful so that we are not beaten in the kitchen front in the great battle in which we are engaged now for the economic independence of the country. We also know that in the initial stage of her development, USA depended much on agriculture for formation of capital. She exported her surplus agricultural produce to the European countries, and thereby earned foreign exchange, and with that money, later on, they industrialised the country. Now, in our country, we have been faced with a very difficult situation. During the last few years, from 1948 up till 1957, we have imported more than 26 million tons of foodgrains from outside the country, and thereby we have spent some thousands of crores of rupees of foreign exchange. This is certainly a very great tragedy for us. This is said to be an agricultural country. Almost seventy-five per cent of the population are agriculturists and nature has endowed us with fertile soil. Even then, we are short of food What can be the reason?

The White Paper has given out the reason that demand has increased, and supply has gone down because of less rain or more rain—that is because of weather conditions. And import has not been augmented adequately because of foreign exchange difficulties These reasons do not seem to be very tenable. The demand has increased surely, as the population has gone up, and the purchasing power of the people has also increased. I believe that is more or less applicable to all the countries in the world. That is going to be a major problem for humanity at large. Now, human population is increasing. And it will be 400 or 500 crores in due course of time. Nobody can help it. With the present resources, how humanity will be able to maintain the present standard for all the population throughout the world, in all the countries, will be a big problem. We have got to solve that problem in this country also. So,

that cannot be a reason for the present difficulty. We have got to overcome that difficulty.

Then, again, the weather condition is certainly responsible for bad crops. However scientifically we may develop, we cannot eliminate the weather altogether. That is true. But we should not be dependent on weather to such an extent. Even now, 80 per cent of the cultivable land is not irrigated. So, that cannot be said to be a very welcome feature. Government have certainly taken some measures, but they are not adequate or effective enough.

In the implementation of the schemes, I am constrained to say, that there are cases of negligence, as has been given out in the Evaluation Report. Even in community projects or national extension service blocks, proper care has not been taken. As regards touring of specialists, it has been said:

> "The data on tours by specialists in the block areas have been obtained for all specialists and analysed in detail in regard to the specialists in agriculture and co-operation. They show that the agriculture specialist could visit only about two-thirds of the villages under his charge once a year; the remaining one-third could not be visited. The co-operation specialist could visit even less; he could visit on an average only about sixty per cent of the villages in the block once a year; the other forty per cent saw nothing of him over a whole year.".

In other areas, it is certainly not even so effective. As regards people's co-operation, it has been said:

> "The value of people's participation in works programmes works out to an average of Re. 1 per person per year in the case of NES blocks and Rs. 1-8 in the case of CD Blocks".

So it has not been possible to get people's co-operation even in the NES and Community Development Blocks. There lies the very cogent reason why it has not been possible to increase food production.

Then again, we have found that even now we have not organised the farmers or the cultivators. In America, there are very large individual farms; in Russia, they have collectivisation. But in India, we have not yet decided what should be the organisation for our cultivators. Unless there is a good organisation, the cultivator cannot have the facility or the capacity to modernise agriculture. If the cultivators cannot modernise agriculture, it is not possible for them to produce enough. By modernisation, I do not mean that machine tools or tractors are to be used, but at least such implements as sprayers, water pumps should be given to them and they should be able to handle them. Otherwise they cannot protect their crops from the pest menace and other things. This year the ahue crop was very good in Assam. But the locust menace destroyed everything. In the beginning, the cultivators were not very vigilant but when they saw the damage done, they reported the matter to the Agricultural Department. The Agricultural Department then requisitioned one helicopter from the Centre. But by the time the helicopter reached the area, everything was finished. There was no use for the helicopter. I, however, do not want to blame any body for it.

What I want to say is that there is something wrong in the very organisation. It may not be the helicopter, but at least sprayers and other things should be there in the villages. The villagers cannot afford to buy these implements. Even now, they have not

[Shri Bhagwati]

the organisation or the resources. So I feel that the villagers and cultivators should be organised into co-operatives or any other organisation so that they may cope with the situation. Even now, we have not paid much attention in this aspect.

Government have executed some irrigation works in Assam. About 2,000 miles of embankments have been erected to protect the paddy fields from flood. It cost about Rs. 5 crores. That was a very good thing—there is no doubt about it. But cultivators have lost one respect. How? Formerly, when the floods came, the flood water did some good also though crops were damaged. The Brahmaputra carried millions of tons of manure in the shape of silt to the paddy fields. Now, with the bunds erected, the flood water cannot come to the paddy fields. So the fields have been deprived of this silt manure. What is the result? The yield has gone down The Agricultural Department should give assistance and advice to the cultivators how to compensate for this loss. They have not as yet done that.

There should be research as to what pattern of crop will be suitable in the area. After the erection of the embankments, we have not given enough attention to this problem. We have dealt with one aspect, but have not paid attention to another aspect. The works may do some good in certain directions, but they may also do harm in another direction. So the department concerned should have a co-ordinated effort and research work done to meet all eventualities.

I also think that there should be some river valley projects in Assam so that the problem of flood and also want of water can be solved, so that regulated water supply can be ensured to the cultivators. That is very essential. So I submit that the Government should consider the question of taking up some projects there so that this very big problem in Assam can be solved satisfactorily. Uptill now, some embankments have been erected. They are at best palliative measures. They do not go deep into the problem. They have not solved the problem basically. So I submit that some such measures have to be taken to tackle this problem.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have received notice of two amendments (Nos. 9 and 10) to the substitute motion No. 8 moved yesterday by Shri Bibhuti Mishra. One is by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava and the other is from Shri Shree Narayan Das. I shall treat both these amendments as having been allowed to be moved.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: There are also other amendments tabled.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I enquired from the beginning, and I had allowed all the amendments.

Shri Shree Narayan Das (Darbhanga): I beg to move:

> "That in the substitute motion moved by Shri Bibhuti Mishra, printed as No. 8 in List No. 3 of substitute motions,—In paragraph 2, line 2,—*after* "take" *insert* "more".

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I beg to move:

> "That in the substitute motion by Shri Bibhuti Mishra, printed as No. 8 in List No. 3 of substitute motions, the following be added at the end;—
>
> 'This House further requests the Government to seriously consider the appalling decrease in the amount of annual production of milk in the country involving as it does more than 5 crores of maunds every year and the shortage of bullocks by at least a crore as both of them constitute

big hurdles in the efficient production of food and take immediate steps to remedy the situation'."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These two amendments are also before the House. Shri A. C. Guha.

श्री रामू पांडे (रसड़ा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जरा कुछ निवेदन करना है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप जरा बैठे, जो कुछ निवेदन करना चाहते हैं वह मुझे मालूम है। आप बोलना ही तो चाहते हैं ।

चौ० रणवीर सिंह : सरकार को जो लाखों टन अनाज देते हैं, उन्हें भी तो मौका देना चाहिये ।

श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया (इटावा): मुझे भी अवसर मिलना चाहिए ।

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Nobody from the Socialist Party has spoken.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let Shri A. C. Guha be considered as one of the socialists.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: What?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would request hon. Members to take only 10 minutes each.

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): The food debate has become a seasonal matter. Practically every session we have some debate on this matter, but hardly make any progress. We are in the same difficult position as before.

I am sorry to say it should have been better for the Minister and the Ministry not to have circulated this White Paper. It is an insult to the intelligence of this House. I do not know whom they wanted to convince with this White Paper. Some figures have been given out in this paper and also in the Food Minister's speech yesterday.

The main point here is this;—As regards production of foodgrains, we have this year 6.5 million tons less than last year. Naturally, there will be some shortage; and difficulties as regards distribution and price also will follow. So the only way out is to import foodgrains to keep up the supply and stabilise price. But I cannot understand why the import this year has been curtailed. Last year in spite of higher production, more than 35 lakh tons were imported and this year we have imported only 10 lakh tons and there is a proposal to get another million tons of foodgrains. So it will come to 28 lakh tons as against about 36 lakh tons last year, in spite of the fact that last year we had 67 lakh tons of more foodgrains and in terms of cereals only 44 lakh tons. This is a point on which I hope the hon. Minister will give us some explanation why in spite of lower production this year the import has been very much lower. I do not know how he intends to keep up the supply and meet the demands of the people.

The food problem can only be solved on the agricultural side. If we can produce more we can get more food. Unless we produce more, surely, we will have to import food, however much we may dislike it. There is no other alternative. During these 10 or 11 years, we have had many schemes to increase our agricultural production and I think crores of rupees or hundreds of crores have been spent but hardly any progress has been made.

Much has been said about minor irrigation schemes. I think it was yesterday that Shri V. T. Krishnamachari addressing the Presidents and Secretaries of the Congress analysed the causes of the possible shortfall. One was the non-utilisation of irrigation facilities, the major and minor irrigation schemes. The target we had fixed was the irrigation of 3·5 million acres. But they have not been able to utilise the irrigation facilities created and even maintained.

[Shri A. C. Guha]

Yesterday, the Minister also admitted that practically a little more than half of the irrigation facilities have been utilised so far.

Then Shri Krishnamachari has said there was lack of proper maintenance of the minor irriagation schemes resulting in the gradual reduction of the area covered, delay in establishing seed farms and shortage of fertilizers. Only a few days ago, there was a conference in Calcutta of the Agricultural Ministers of the Eastern Zone, namely, Bihar, Assam, Orissa, West Bengal, Manipur and Tripura. There also the Minister inaugurating the Conference has admitted that most of these minor irrigation schemes were not being maintained after being created. It has been alleged that for lack of staff these cannot be maintained. So it has been more or less a sheer waste of public money.

I do not know how the Minister is going to solve this problem. We have been creating certain irrigation facilities and within 2 or 3 years those facilities are allowed to go out of use. The area that was once irrigated is again going out of irrigation.

You will find in certain statistics supplied by the Food and Agriculture Ministry of the Government of India that except in rice our productivity per acre is going down as regards jowar, bajra, maize, wheat, barley and many other things. Is this the progress we are making? Our acreage production is practically the lowest in the world perhaps, in some items, it is even lower than Pakistan, at least in rice and jute it is so. In spite of our 10 or 11 years of so many irrigation and development schemes, we find that our production per acre has been going down except in rice—in all other major agricultural products, foodgrains and pulses. In rice also there has been only a slight rise.

Here again there is some anomaly in the figures supplied from the Government sources. In one book we find that in 1955-56 the production per acre is only 748 lbs. In another, supplied only yesterday, we find the all-India average is 1,100 lbs. per acre. I do not know whether the Minister would say that the production from 1955 to 1956 has gone up from 748 lbs. to 1,100 lbs. There has been some mistake in the figures given by two different authorities of the Government of India. At least as regards statistics, even if they are wrong, there should be some uniformity in the mistakes. There should not be contradictory figures issued from different sources.

Shri A. P. Jain: Are you not mixing up rice and paddy?

Shri A. C. Guha: No. I think they also use the term rice. I am sorry it is paddy. But in giving other figures you have been quoting rice.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has corrected his mistake. He does not want the Government to correct his mistake.

Shri A. C. Guha: I am sorry; the figure is for paddy; the hon. Minister is right.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Anyhow it is perfectly correct that fertility as a whole has not increased.

Shri A. C. Guha: But the main point remains that except in rice, in all other major foodgrains our production per acre has gone down during the last few years in spite of all our efforts—major, minor and medium irrigation facilities.

When there is a short supply, naturally, there has to be some proper distribution of the foodgrains. The department has failed to increase agricultural production. But I am sorry the machinery has equally failed regarding maintaining an equitable and proper supply of foodgrains and also price.

The Minister has stated that there are 41,000 fair price shops. But I wish he had gone to some of the rural areas and seen how they are functioning. Most of the time they did not possess any foodgrains. Sometimes they have stocks which would not meet even 33 per cent of the requirements of the local area. Sometimes the rice or atta is not of the proper quality. When there is hunger we need not even bother so much about quality. At least there should be some standard maintained. The supply should be at least enough to meet the local requirements. There is no use, otherwise, of having these fair price shops when only 40 or 30 per cent of the people can get grains and the rest 60 or 70 per cent have to go away disappointed. There is no use keeping them as a show.

In Bengal, there was all along a demand for rice. This time, even in rural areas people have told me that they are not particular about rice and they can have whatever they can get. They say: we understand that rice is not available but let us have wheat or atta. I put the.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon Member must now conclude.

Shri A. C. Guha: I think I shall get 15 minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I announced that 10 minutes only will be given.

Shri A. C. Guha: I think the Minister will see that the fair price shops are properly supplied with foodgrains enough to meet the requirements of the local people.

I think in the last session the Hon. Minister gave us some sort of assurance about the proper functioning of these fair price shops. He almost assured us that no grain would be allowed to go out of the shops to the hoarders and that there would be diversion of the foodgrains from these shops or replacement of the better quality of foodgrains by lower quality ones. I hope he will come up to those assurances and see that the foodgrain shops function properly. He has given us some assurances in this white paper. He has said that the price has stabilised in my State West Bengal. "The large scale distribution of wheat should have a salutary effect on the price of foodgrains in West Bengal"; that is what this White Paper says. But the prices have been going up week after week. The latest report is that it is about Rs. 29 or Rs. 30 per maund of rice; in some places it is Rs. 35. I hope that he will see that prices are brought down within the reach of an ordinary man. It is said here that the prices in Bihar are "ruling steady though at a high level. About Assam also, he says that it is fairly steady though at a high level". The prices in none of these States have been steady. He should see that the prices are kept at a fair level at which the Government wants them to be. Let us be told that the price will be Rs. 30 or Rs. 35 if they think like that; but if the Government say the price would be Rs. 16 for wheat or Rs. 23 per maund for rice, in prices should not go up by about 25 or 20 per cent over that. He has assured us that measures have been taken to curb speculative activities.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri A. C. Guha: I am afraid here also, he has been misinformed. Speculative activities have not been curbed.

Lastly, as I have said, this food problem has to be fought on the agriculture side and for that I think it is time the Government revised its whole procedure. They have been most pathetically and helplessly depending on the bureaucracy and on the Government Department which have failed both in agriculture and also in the distribution and maintaining the price of the foodgrains. I think they should now depend more

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on the popular collaboration and delegate authority to local people and local authorities so that there may be a real national campaign for increasing foodgrains production. They should not depend so much on the bureaucracy and their own department. This White Paper is glossing over the mistakes that have been committed by them; those who have committed mistakes have themselves prepared the white paper simply to gloss over their own failures. I hope the Minister will get over his dependence on such people.

श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया (इटावा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, अन्न संकट पर अपने विचार प्रकट करने के पूर्व मैं निहायत ही अदब से आपसे दरख्वास्त करूंगा कि हम लोगों के साथ बहुत बड़ी हक़तलफ़ी होगी अगर हमारे समय के अन्दर कटौती की गई । इसलिए मैं आप से निवेदन करूंगा कि हम लोगों को भी उतना ही समय दिया जाये जितना कि अन्य माननीय सदस्यों को दिया गया है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अब तो १० मिनट ही मिल रहे हैं ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): A large number of speakers want to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Even if I extend the time by ten hours, some hon. Members would be left out.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: A suggestion for your consideration is that if the hon. Minister shall kindly take 40 minutes instead of one hour, two more can be accommodated.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the hon. Member sure that he will then get his chance? ....(*Interruptions.*)

श्री यादव (बाराबंकी) : श्रीमन्, मैं चाहता हूं कि एक घंटे का समय बढ़ा दिया जाय

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Bhadauria should not lose any time because it will be deducted from his time.

श्री अर्जुन सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, देश की आजादी के बाद हर वर्ष खाद्य संकट, अन्न संकट और अर्थसंकट के ऊपर यह वादविवाद इस लोक सभा में सुनते हुए और अखबारों में पढ़ते हुए चलते आ रहे हैं । केवल इस वादविवाद के बाद हम यह समझ लेते हैं और हुकूमत यह समझ लेती है कि उसका काम पूरा हो गया है और उसे कुछ और काम करना बाकी नहीं है ।

श्रीमन्, आज यह जो अन्न संकट जिस पर यह वादविवाद हो रहा है, आज मुल्क में सिर्फ अन्न संकट ही नहीं है । मुल्क में आज दो संकट हैं । प्रथम तो अन्न संकट और जिन कारणों से यह अन्न संकट है उस पर कभी वादविवाद नहीं होता है । उसकी तरफ हम ध्यान ही नहीं देते हैं । और यह द्वितीय संकट है सरकारी संकट । आज मुल्क के अन्दर दो संकट, अन्न संकट और सरकारी संकट मौजूद हैं । इन दो संकटों के बीच में, इस एक चक्की के दो पाटों के बीच में आज देश के सभी गरीब लोग पिसे और दबे जा रहे हैं । आज मुल्क में प्रश्न यह नहीं है कि खाद्य संकट को कैसे मिटाया जाय या गल्ले की कमी को खत्म करके कैसे अन्न का उत्पादन बढ़ाया जाय, बल्कि मुख्य प्रश्न आज हमारे सामने यह है कि हमारी खाद्य नीति हमारी कृषि नीति जो निर्धारित की जाय, जो अपनाई जावे वह स्थायी और मजबूत हो, जिससे कि हम आगे चल करके मुल्क के अन्दर अन्न का उत्पादन बढ़ा सकें । केवल अन्न का उत्पादन बढ़ाने से ही काम नहीं चलेगा । अन्न का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के साथ ही साथ हमको इस बात पर भी ग़ौर करना होगा कि जो मुल्क का अन्न भंडार है जो गल्ले का जखीरा है वह मुल्क के मुट्ठी भर पूंजीपतियों के खूनी पंजों में न जाने पाय । अगर हम अन्न का उत्पादन बढ़ाते रहे और आज जिस तरह से अन्न भंडारों पर मुट्ठी भर

लोगों का अधिकार बना रहता है और यदि इसी प्रकार रहा तो यह नकली अन्न संकट इस मुल्क में सदैव रहेंगे । इसलिए आगे चल करके यह नकली अन्न सकट न रह सकें इसलिए जरूरी है कि अन्न भडारों पर चन्द एक व्यक्तियो का अधिकार न होने पाये, इस तरफ भी हुकूमत को ध्यान से देखना है ।

आज हम को दो बुनियादी बातो पर गौर करना है । पहली तो यह कि जहा पर अन्नाभाव है, गल्ले की कमी है वहा पर गल्ले की पैदावार को बढाया जाय और उसके साथ ही साथ दूसरी तरफ दूसरा काम यह होना चाहिए कि जब अन्न का उत्पादन बढे तो उसके साथ ही साथ हमारी पर्चेजिंग पावर, क्रय-शक्ति, खरीदने की ताकत भी बढ जिससे मुल्क के लाखो, करोडो भूमिहीन खेतिहर मजदूर और कम तनख्वाह पाने वाले नौकरपेशा लोग अपनी जो कुछ भी उनकी पूजी या मासिक आमदनी हो उससे वे अपनी जरूरत के लायक अनाज खरीद करके अपने परिवार की परवरिश कर सके । इसलिए आज इस बात पर भी गौर किया जाय कि किस तरीके से हमारी पर्चेजिंग पावर, खरीदने की शक्ति बढे । हम देखते है कि वस्त्रो का उत्पादन बढा लेकिन फिर भी उन मेहनतकशो की बेटियो और उन की मा बहनो के लिए उनके तन की लाज तक ढकने के लिए कपडा नही मिलता है, हालाकि उनके द्वारा मिलो और कारखानो में करोडो गज कपडा तैयार किया जाता है । इसलिये हमारा दूसरा काम यह होना चाहिए कि हम अन्न उत्पादन के साथ साथ लोगो की पर्चेजिंग पावर बढायें ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आये दिन अपने इस देश में भूख से बिलख बिलख कर मरने वाले लोगो की खबरें अखबारो में निकला करती रहती है । हमे दुख तो इस बात का है कि खाद्य सकट के समय मे भी आज यह सरकार उन लोगो को जिनके कारण कि कभी कभी मुल्क मे नकली सकट उत्पन्न हो जाता है उनके हितों और उनके स्वार्थों को देख कर आज गल्ले की कीमत, जो गल्ला किसान के खेत और खलिहान से उठ कर आता है और जब वह मुट्ठी भर लोगो के हाथो मे आ जाता है तो जिस गल्ले को १० और १४ रुपये मन की दर से खरीदा गया है उसी को १० रुपये फी मन और बढा करके बाद मे बेचा जाता है इस पर भी सरकार का ध्यान देना होगा ।

यह अफसोस की बात है कि पिछले कई वर्षों से इस तरफ भी कृषि मत्री महोदय का और देश की हुकूमत का ध्यान दिलाया गया कि यह ठीक नही है कि जो खुले आम लूट चलती है वह बद हो सके और इस तरह जो किसानो का लगभग ५ अरब रुपया हर साल का चला जाता है, वह बच सके । अगर सरकार इसको रोकने के लिए कुछ सख्त कदम उठाये तो किसानो को बहुत बडी राहत मिल सकती है ।

हमारे प्रधान मत्री महोदय ने मार्च सन् १९४९ में एक खाद्य नीति निश्चित की थी । उन्होंने यह घोषणा की थी कि मार्च सन् १९५२ तक हम देश को खाद्यान्न के मामले मे आत्म-निर्भर कर देगे स्वालम्बी बना देगे, लेकिन आज हम देख क्या रहे है कि कितने मार्च हम "मार्च" कर चुके है, कितनी भयकर काली बरसातें और भयावनी रातें निकल चुकी है, कितने ग्रीष्मकालीन तपते हुए दिन हमारे सर से गुजर चुके है, लेकिन क्या गल्ले का उत्पादन बढा ? क्या गल्ले की कमी के कारण मौतो मे कमी हुई ? क्या हमारा मुल्क खाद्यान्न के मामले मे स्वालम्बी और आत्मनिर्भर हुआ ? जब हम गौर करते है तो हम देखते है कि गल्ले की पैदावार दिन पर दिन घटती चली जा रही है । यह सरकारी आकडे बताते है । मरने वाले लोगो की सख्या मे वृद्धि होती चली जा रही है यह हमारे अखबार बतलाते है । अब ऐसी दशा मे जब तक कोई मजबूत और ठोस कदम नही उठाया जायगा तब तक इस सकट से हम देश को नही बचा सकेंगे और हम अपने मुल्क को जीवित और जिन्दादिल नही रख सकेंगे ।

[श्री अर्जुन सिंह]

श्रीमन्, कल पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश का जिक्र किया गया । उस समय हमारे माननीय खाद्य मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि यह तो राज्य का मामला है । कोई भी राज्य हो चाहे उत्तर प्रदेश हो, चाहे मरने वाले बिहार में हों चाहे राजस्थान में हो, वे कहीं न कहीं और किसी न किसी राज्य में तो मरेंगे ही । इसलिये मैं हुकूमत से और खास कर खाद्य मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूं कि एक एक जिले के अन्दर सैकड़ों लोगों की खाद्यान्न के अभाव में, गल्ले की कमी के कारण मौतें हो जाती हैं लेकिन यह सरकार न कुछ सोचती है और न मरने वाले लोगों के प्रति हमदर्दी के दो शब्द ही कहती है ।

मैंने अभी पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के गोरखपुर, बस्ती, आजमगढ़ और देवरिया, तमाम स्थानों का दौरा किया और देखा और जो भुखमरी तथा ग़रीबी उन जिलों में मुझे देखने को मिली वह कल्पना से बाहर है ।

श्रीमन्, मैं आपकी मारफत हुकूमत के नोटिस में यह लाना चाहता हूं कि अकेले देवरिया जिले की सलेमपुर तहसील में भूख से यह मौतें हुईं :

१. श्री रंग बिहारी पुत्र दुगपाल उम्र ३५ वर्ष ग्राम बोमघाटी, थाना खामपार २-७-५८.

२. कालेसेर, ग्राम रारि, थाना
३. मु० यनवा, खुखुन्दो

४. राममनी गोड़, ग्राम मरहवा, थाना खुखुन्दो

५. फूलचन्द हरिजन, ग्राम बरसाथ, थाना बरहज

६. टेगरी हरिजन, गुमहटी, थाना
७. हरिशरण पुत्र टेगरी, खुखुन्दो

८. भगिरतिया पुत्री अजराज, ग्राम बलिया, थाना लार

इस तरह से एक दो नहीं सैकड़ों लोगों की रोज मौतें हो रही हैं । प्रान्तीय सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित किया जाता है और साथ ही साथ केन्द्रीय सरकार का भी ध्यान आकर्षित किया जा रहा है, लेकिन सरकार की तरफ से जो श्वेत पत्र जारी किया जाता है उसमें कहीं भी यह जिक्र नहीं है कि आज मुल्क में किस तरह से अन्नाभाव के कारण गरीबों की मौतें हो रही हैं ।

अगर आप अन्न का उत्पादन बढ़ाना चाहते हैं तो हमारा सुझाव है कि सब से पहले पानी की उचित व्यवस्था की जाये । जब तक सिंचाई की ठीक से व्यवस्था नहीं होती तब तक अन्न का उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ सकता । ये जो करोड़ों और अरबों रुपये लगाकर बड़े बड़े बांध बनाये जा रहे हैं इनसे काम पूरा नहीं होगा । इसलिये हमारा सुझाव है कि छोटी छोटी योजनाओं की तरफ ध्यान दिया जाये अगर यह सरकार यह टारजेट बना ले कि हर साल में दस लाख पक्के कुवें बनायेगी और एक कुवें पर एक हजार रुपये की सबसिडी, सहायता देगी और एक हजार का तकावी लोन दिया जायेगा, तो इस तरह से दस लाख कुवों पर एक अरब रुपया खर्च होगा, और एक कुवें से एक फसल के अन्दर कम से कम दस एकड़ भूमि की सिंचाई हो सकेगी, और इस तरह से पूरे वर्ष के अन्दर एक कुवें से २० एकड़ की सिंचाई हो सकती है यानी एक वर्ष के अन्दर इन कुवों से दो करोड़ एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई बिना बड़े बड़े बांधों के और बिना बड़ा खर्च किये हुए इन छोटी छोटी योजना से हो सकती है । अगर सरकार ने यह काम पिछले दस वर्षों में किया होता तो आज हमारे देश में लगभग २० करोड़ एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई इन छोटी योजनाओं से हो सकती थी ।

हमारे देश के अन्दर २६ करोड़ एकड़ जमीन हल के नीचे है जिसमें से सिर्फ ६ करोड़

एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई होती है । अंग्रेजी राज्य में तीन करोड़ एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई होती थी और दस वर्षों के अन्दर हम व्यवस्था कर सके हैं सिर्फ तीन करोड़ एकड़ जमीन की सिंचाई की, यह है हमारी तरक्की । इसलिये मैं कहता हूं कि छोटी योजनाओं के द्वारा शीघ्र से शीघ्र पानी की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये ।

इसके साथ ही साथ हमारा दूसरा सुझाव यह है कि जितनी जमीन अलाभकर, है, जितनी जोतें गैर फायदे की हैं, जो ६ एकड़ से कम की जोतें हैं, उन सब जोतों का लगान या मालगुजारी माफ होनी चाहिये। इसमें सरकार को लगभग ५० करोड़ रुपये का घाटा होगा यह बात सही है । लेकिन आप देखें कि हमारे इस मुल्क के अन्दर ८५ प्रतिशत जोतें अलाभकर है । इन ८५ प्रति शत के बाद जो १५ प्रतिशत जोतें बचती हैं उन के पास ५५ प्रतिशत भूमि है और इन ८५ प्रतिशत जोतों के पास केवल ४५ प्रतिशत भूमि है । अगर इन ८५ प्रतिशत जोतो का लगान माफ किया जाये तो इससे किसानों के अन्दर एक नई प्रेरणा पैदा होगी, उनके अन्दर नये उत्साह का जन्म होगा । और हम देखेंगे कि इसका परिणाम यह होगा कि दो चार वर्षों के अन्दर यह जो हम बाहर से करोड़ों मन गल्ला मंगाते हैं यह नही मंगाना होगा और हम अपने देश को आत्म-निर्भर और स्वावलम्बी बना सकेंगे ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Sarju Pandey.

श्री सरजू पांडे : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय एक घंटे का समय और बढ़ा दिया जाये तो अच्छा होगा ।

Shri Rajendra Singh (Chapra): At least half an hour more may be allowed.

श्री सरजू पांडे : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी अभी जो इस सदन . . . .

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर हाउस चाहता है तो एक और घंटा बढ़ा देते में मुझे कोई ऐतराज नहीं है मगर एक घंटे के बाद भी हम यह पायेंगे कि कुछ मेम्बर साहबान को फिर भी निराश होना पड़ेगा । कितने मेम्बर साहब बोलना चाहते हैं जरा मैं देखूं तो ।

२३ माननीय सदस्य खड़े हुए हैं :

इन २३ मेम्बर साहबान को मैं कितना कितना वक्त दूं । अगर दस दस मिनट भी दिया जाये तो उसके लिये पांच घंटे का वक्त और चाहिये ।

श्री स० म० बनर्जी (कानपुर): इस फूड सिचुएशन के लिये सरकार जिम्मेदार है, इसलिये मेरा सुझाव है कि इस तरफ वालों को बोलने का मौका अधिक दिया जाये ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : इधर से बोलने वालो को मौका देने का यह चौथा नम्बर है, फिर भी बनर्जी साहब शिकायत करते है । मैं चार बार अपोजीशन वालो को मौका दे चुका हू ।

श्री० रघुवीर सिंह : अगर हाउस में लोगो ने हमको ज्यादा तादाद मे भेजा है तो इसमें हमारा क्या कसूर है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय . अगर हाउस की ऐसी मर्जी है तो मैं एक घंटा और बढ़ाये देता हूं लेकिन इतने वक्त मे चार पांच मेम्बर ही बोल सकेंगे । मुझे तो कोई ऐतराज नहीं है ।

Shri V. C. Shukla: Sir, you may kindly give only five minutes to each Member.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker:. If the Members agree that they would be satisfied with only five minutes, I have no objection.

Some Hon. Members: Yes, yes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right. Now we must not lose more time in this discussion.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (West Dinajpur): The House sat up to 6·30 when water failed. Today it is the question of food, and the House must at least sit up to 6·30.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker. I have not enquired from the Minister whether it would be convenient for him also; we have also to accommodate him.

Shri A. P. Jain: I have absolutely no objection; the House may sit as long as it likes.

An Hon. Member: A good gesture.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But at 5·15 I have got to go to a Select Committee.

Shri A. P. Jain: I will not be here tomorrow In case the House wants to sit late, either I should be given sufficient time today or my reply may be postponed to some other day

Shri Rajendra Singh (Chapra): The hon. Minister has suggested that if the time today is consumed by us, he will reply later on, because he is not available tomorrow. In that case, you may give us time.

Shri A. P. Jain: I will not be available for some days So, let us finish the debate today. I will require only one hour. I am not going to ask for extension of my one hour, because that would mean another extension of the time

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let us not waste time. It can be decided by the Members themselves. Shri Sarju Pandey.

श्री सरजू पांडे : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस सदन के अन्दर कल और आज मिला कर काफी देर तक देश की खाद्य समस्या पर बहस हुई। मुझे ऐसा लगता है की केन्द्रीय खाद्य मंत्री ने पार साल की तरह, जब कि यहां पर श्री अशोक मेहता कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के बाद बहस हुई थी, यह जताने की कोशिश की है कि हमारे देश में खाद्य समस्या गम्भीर नहीं है। पारसाल उन्होंने यह जताने की भी कोशिश की थी कि प्रान्तीय सरकारों ने जो खाद्य समस्या के बारे में रिपोर्ट दी हैं वे एग्जेजेरेटेड हैं। इस सिलसिले में हमारे खाद्य मंत्री श्री जैन साहब ने उन दिनों जो अपनी तकरीर की थी उस से मैं कुछ उद्धरण पेश करना चाहता हूं। आपने उस समय शिवा-रमन कमेटी का रेफेरेंस देते हुए कहा था :

> "From a study of the past history of the droughts of 1932, 1935 and 1950, roughly speaking, they have come to the conclusion that the losses may perhaps be of a lower order than what has been estimated by the State Government"

इस तरह से आपने उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार मध्य प्रदेश और उड़ीसा के बारे में भी कहा था। पिछले साल आपने यह बताने की कोशिश की थी कि प्रान्तीय सरकारें अकाल के ज्यादा से ज्यादा फिगर बताती हैं मगर वास्तव में अकाल की ऐसी हालत नहीं है। इस साल भी केन्द्रीय खाद्य मंत्रालय ने जो रिपोर्ट पेश की है उसमें भी इस बात की कोशिश की गयी है कि जो देश की खाद्य समस्या की हकीकत है, जो दर असल आज गम्भीर संकट है वह सदन की जानकारी में न आने पाये। उन्होंने पारसाल की तरह ही यह बताने की कोशिश की है कि जो हमारी जानकारी है वह ज्यादा सही है और जो कुछ लीडर कहते हैं, वह गलत है और जो प्रान्तीय सरकारें कहती हैं वह गलत है, बल्कि जो हम कहते हैं वह ठीक है और इस तरह से यह प्रयत्न किया गया है कि सदन के सामने यह बात न आने पावे कि अवस्था बहुत गम्भीर है। इस साल भी इस रिपोर्ट के द्वारा सरकार ने यह दिखाने की कोशिश

की है कि यहां पर आबादी बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ गई है, लोगों की खरीदने की शक्ति . . . .

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कोई मिनिस्टर ही नहीं है ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : तीन है ।

श्री सरजू पांडे : यह दिखाने की कोशिश की है कि लोगों की खरीदने की शक्ति बढ़ गई है । इसमें यह भी दिखाने की कोशिश की गई है कि आज-कल लोगों को जो खाना—१८४० कैलोरीज मिल रहा है, उस को ज्यादातर लोग दूसरी चीजों से पूरा करते है और चूंकि लोगों की खरीदने की शक्ति बढ़ गई है, इसलिये ज्यादातर लोग गेहूं और चावल खाने लगे है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एक ऐसे इलाके से आता हूं, जो कि उत्तर प्रदेश का पूर्वी इलाका कहा जाता है, जिस के बारे में फूडग्रेंज एन्क्वायरी कमेटी ने, जो कि पिछले दिनों वहां गई थी, और इस सदन के एक सीनियर मेम्बर, श्री शिब्बन लाल सक्सेना, ने कई बार इस सदन में कहा है कि वहां की हालत बड़ी खराब है । सरकार की ओर से कहा जाता है कि वहा की हालत बडी अच्छी हो गई है । श्रीमन्, मैं अपने साथ आम की गुठलियां और उन से बनी रोटी का टुकडा लाया हूं, ताकि आप और माननीय मंत्री उन को देखें और अन्दाजा लगायें कि वहां क्या हालत है और किस तरह से लोग रह रहे है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य वहीं से दिखा दें । इस तरह डिमांस्ट्रेशन की जरूरत नहीं है ।

Shri Jagdish Awasthi (Bilhaur): It should be given to the hon. Minister.

श्री सरजू पांडे : मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि मैं स्वयं बलिया, आजमगढ़ और गाजीपुर में घरों में यह देखने के लिये गया हूं कि वहां के सम्बन्ध में जो बातें कही जाती हैं, वे कहां तक सही है । मैं ने खुद देखा कि एक हरिजन परिवार के घर में सात आदमी थे, लेकिन उन के यहां सिर्फ दो आम की गुठलियों की पकी हुई रोटियां थी । इन सब बातों के बावजूद हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब कहते है कि वहां के लोग चावल और गेहूं खाते है । भुखमरी के बारे में आप फरमाते है कि किसी ने खराब अनाज खा लिया था, इसलिये वह मर गया । कल इस सदन में इस के सम्बन्ध में कुछ उद्धरण भी प्रस्तुत किये गये थे । मुझे आशा है कि मुझे माफ किया जायेगा कि मैं यह कहने के लिये मजबूर हो गया हूं कि जैन साहब को खाद्य मंत्री की जगह अकाल मंत्री कहना चाहिये । जब से उन्होंने इस विभाग की बाग-डोर सम्भाली है, तब से आत्म-संतोष और आत्म-प्रवंचना से काम लेने, गलत बातें कहने और उन को हाउस की नजर में लाने और यह दिखाने के अलावा कि हालत ठीक है, कुछ नहीं हो रहा है । कहा जाता है कि कुछ जगह बाढ़ आ गई है, कुछ जगह अकाल पड़ गया है, परन्तु बाकी जगह हालत ठीक है । हकीकत यह है कि सारे देश में और खास तौर से पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश में हालत बड़ी खराब हो रही है ।

माननीय मंत्री ने बहुत से आकड़े प्रस्तुत किये है और कहा है कि पैदावार लगातार बढ़ रही है । उन्होंने यह भी दिखाने की बड़ी कोशिश की कि सिचाई के साधनों में बड़ी तरक्की हो गई है । इस में कोई शक नहीं है कि सिचाई के कुछ साधन उपलब्ध हो गये है, लेकिन जैसा कि कई माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा है, आप ने जो पानी के साधन दिये हैं, उनसे लोग पानी नहीं ले रहे है, क्योंकि वह पानी बहुत मंहगा पड़ता है, उस के बड़े हैवी चार्जिज हैं और किसान उस पानी का इस्तेमाल करने में असमर्थ है । हमारे यहां ट्यूब-वैल लगे हुए हैं, लेकिन जो किसान वहां से पानी

[श्री सरजू पांडे]

लेता है, वह केवल उतना ही गल्ला पैदा कर पाता है, जिस से वह ट्यूबवैल के पानी का पैसा दे सकता है । इस प्रकार किसानों को सिचाई के इन साधनों से कोई लाभ नही होता है ।

बहुत सारी नहरे बनी हुई हैं, लेकिन अगर रास्ते में कोई रेलवे लाइन आ गई, तो रेल डिपार्टमेंट को लिखते लिखते मर जाइये, लेकिन उस की तरफ से जवाब नहीं मिलता है कि नहर खुलेगी या नही । मैं अपने जिले के विषय में जानता हूं कि विभाग की ओर से इस बारे में जवाब नही दिया गया है और आज तक पानी नही आ सका है, क्योंकि उस की तरफ से नहर खोलने की व्यवस्था नही की गई है ।

आज सरकार की तरफ से जापानी खेती की बहुत तारीफ की जाती है और कहा जाता है कि उस से बडी पैदावार बढ रही है । मैं इस सिलसिले में यह कहना चाहता हू कि जापानी खेती मे एक वक्त ज्यादा लगता है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय माननीय सदस्य तो एक लम्बे मजमून को लेने लगे ।

श्री सरजू पांडे यह तो आज की बरनिंग इशु है और आज इस का बहुत ढोल पीटा जाता है कि इस से बडी तरक्की हो रही है, लेकिन जापानी खेती में मुसीबत यह है कि अगर पानी एक बार बरसता है और फिर तीन चार दिन नही बरसता है, तो खेती सूख जाती है । किसान चाहता है कि हमारा धान जल्दी से जल्दी लगा दिया जाये, लेकिन जापानी खेती में देर लगती है । लोग रस्सी ले कर बैठ कर धान लगाते हैं और अगर इतनी देर मे पानी सूख गया, तो धान नही लगाया जा सकेगा । मान लीजिये कि हम ने पचास बीघा धान लगाना है और जापानी खेती के ढग से लगाना है, तो परिणाम यह होगा कि पानी सूख जायेगा और हम किसी भी तरीके से धान नहीं लगा सकेंगे । हम देखते हैं कि ग्रामसेवक जब धान लगवाते हैं, तो ज्यादा धान नही लग पाता है । दिखाने के लिये थोड़ा सा धान लगा दिया जाता है और वास्तव में ज्यादा धान नहीं लगाया जाता है ।

अब मैं सरकारी सहायता के विषय में कुछ शब्द कहना चाहता हू । मद्रास स्टेट में तंजोर डिस्ट्रिक्ट मे ट्रेक्टरों के लिये पैसा दिया गया है, मगर वह उन्हीं को दिया गया है, जो खुद ट्रेक्टर खरीद सकते हैं । सरकारी सहायता ज्यादातर उन्ही लोगो के हाथो में जाती है, जो उस का गलत इस्तेमाल करते है और वह उन लोगो को नही मिलती है, जो कि उस का सही तौर पर इस्तेमाल कर सकते हैं । बलवन्तराय मेहता कमेटी की रिपोर्ट में भी कहा गया है कि लोन देने का मतलब यह होना चाहिये कि लोन लेने वाला कैसे उस को इस्तेमाल करता है, लेकिन इस के विपरीत हमारी सरकार इस तरीके से लोन देती है कि वह जल्दी वसूल हो जाये । इस का नतीजा यह होता है कि लोन उन्ही को मिलता है, जो कि डिजर्व नही करते हैं । माननीय कृषि मत्री हम रहे हैं । मैं इस की मिसाल दे सकता हू । उस की जाच कराई जाये । हमारे जिले मे एक आदमी को ट्रेक्टर के लिये पैसा दिया गया और उस ने उसको बेच कर वह पैसा अपनी शादी मे खर्च कर लिया ।

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): I may correct the hon. Member. I am not in charge of agriculture. I am the Minister of Co-operation.

एक माननीय सदस्य . उस व्यक्ति का नाम क्या है ?

श्री सरजू पांडे : अगर आप चाहेंगे, तो मैं उस आदमी का नाम बता सकता हूं ।

अब मैं जमीनों के बंटवारे के सवाल पर आता हूं । यद्यपि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उसूली तौर पर इस बात को मान लिया है कि सीलिंग होनी चाहिये, लेकिन हमारी सूबा सरकार इस को नहीं मानती है और हमारे रेवेन्यू मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि यह जरूरी नहीं है और यहां जमीन ही नहीं है, सीलिंग कहां होगी । मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में बारह करोड़ एकड़ बंजर जमीन पड़ी हुई है, जिस के बंटवारे का कोई प्रोग्राम, कोई सुझाव सरकार के पास नहीं है ।

अन्त में पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश की स्थिति के विषय में एक बात कह कर मैं समाप्त करता हूं । पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश की दशा इस वक्त बहुत खराब है । सारे लोग---प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी, सोशलिस्ट पार्टी, कम्यूनिस्ट पार्टी---कहते हैं कि वहां की हालत खराब है और लोग बिना खाने के मर रहे हैं । हमारे पास कांग्रेस पार्टी के मेम्बर्ज की स्पीचिज मौजूद हैं, जिन में उन्होंने कहा है कि वहां की हालत बहुत खराब है । लेकिन सरकार यह बात मानने के लिये तैयार नहीं है । मैं खाद्य मंत्रालय को यह कहना चाहता हूं कि पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश ने हिन्दुस्तान की आजादी के युद्ध में सब से ज्यादा बढ़ कर हिस्सा लिया है । अगर ग्यारह बरसों की आजादी के बाद वह इस तरह भूखों मरेगा, तो यह लाजिमी तौर पर आप के लिये लज्जा की बात होगी और हमारे लिये तो मुंह दिखाना मुश्किल हो जायेगा । समझ में नहीं आता कि क्या किया जाये । मेरा निवेदन है कि मंत्री मंडल कुछ न कुछ फैसला करे और उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के साथ मिलकर यह तय करे कि वहां सहायता पहुंचाई जाये ।

16 hrs.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I decided to seek your permission to speak for a few minutes, because following the trend of this debate, I thought it would not be proper for me merely to be a silent listener. I am not going to discuss the complexities of the food and agricultural problem, because that would be a long task, since so much has been said from not only the side of the opposition, but also from this side of the House in criticism of the food and agricultural policy of the Government and my colleague, the Food and Agriculture Minister.

The first thing I should like to make clear is that in this matter, whatever decisions have been taken, whatever steps have been taken are not the sole responsibility of the Food and Agriculture Minister. They are the responsibility certainly of the Cabinet, the whole Government of India and certainly my responsibility also. In a matter of this kind, where important issues are involved, it is obvious that no Minister can take those decisions without reference to the Cabinet, to the Government of India, and as it happens here, to the Planning Commission. It may be that we have made mistakes, that we are all in the wrong. I am not for an instant complaining that criticism is made. But my first point is that the responsibility is shared by all of us for the decisions and policy that is being pursued and we have been in intimate touch with that policy and with those decisions. I do not mean that kind of constructive responsibility which every member of Government has in view of our joint responsibility, but rather the fact that we have been constantly in consultation and have shared the responsibility for those decisions. So, in so far as we have failed, we are all responsible for that failure.

The second point is that everyone knows that this food problem, the problem of agricultural production, is one in which the States have a great deal to say naturally. In fact, it is

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

their chief function. Sometimes, the interests of the States pull in different directions. Naturally, the Government of a State has to consider the interests of its own State as well as of India as a whole; and, if, under various pulls, it sometimes prefers the immediate interests of its own State, which may not be good for the whole country, one can understand it. It is a natural feeling, but it does come sometimes in the way of some all-India policies that ultimately might be to the advantage of every State. The fact of the matter is that in the last few years, we have had an extremity of ill-luck. That too is not an excuse, of course. It will be absurd for Government to take shelter merely behind bad monsoon. I am perfectly prepared to accept that. Naturally, it may be an explanation occasionally, but there it is.

An hon. Member referred to the conditions in East Uttar Pradesh. One may refer to the conditions in other parts of the country also, in parts of Orissa and Bihar, which are relatively even less developed than other parts and which may be economically more backward. It is a problem of extreme difficulty to pull them up. That again is not an excuse for the shirking of responsibility, but I am merely pointing out that these problems cannot be solved—in no country; it is not a question of India alone. It is no good comparing India to the U.S.A., Germany, England or other countries, because conditions are totally different. Conditions are different from several points of view. Conditions are different because the pressures of population are not so great there.

Taking the Soviet Union, the ratio of population to area is probably 16:1 —I forget it now—(*Interruptions*) or it may be 10:1. So, there is plenty of land with relatively lesser human beings. The only country which is comparable to India undoubtedly would be China in terms of huge population and land. Also, all those countries on the western world which have done fairly well in the economic sphere and have grown have done so in the course of a large number of years and have built up certain economies.

Now, our problem is a tremendously complicated problem and so is the problem of any other country situated like us, whether it is Pakistan, Indonesia or China. China may have a different socio-economic system, but the problems are essentially the same. I cannot say what success China will have in dealing with this problem. But I am absolutely sure that it will have a very very hard time in solving it. Whatever policy they may adopt,—they may put up all the big machines and big plants in the world —but even then the agricultural problem will remain the basic problem of China, as it is for India.

So, the problem is an exceedingly difficult one. Mr. C. D. Pande talked about population control. That obviously is an exceedingly important problem, though in the context in which he said it, it has no great relevance. We cannot control the population in a year or two. If we made all the efforts in the world, to deal with the population of India, we should take 20 or 25 years before it begins to have any marked effect on the situation gradually, if we try family planning, population control and all that. I am quite convinced about that and all hon. Members here, I hope, will help in that process by propaganda and otherwise, apart from any personal help that they might give in the matter.

Shri Tyagi: Some concrete steps have to be taken in this regard.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: But we must realise that is rather for the

future; it does not meet the immediate difficulty. The immediate difficulty can only be met fundamentally by greater production—that is axiomatic—of foodgrains; in fact all agricultural production; also, of course, industrial growth, both sides. Now, that becomes ultimately a problem of planning on a bigger scale, and it is a problem in which, with all the goodwill in the world and with all the good measures, the Government cannot wholly succeed without a large measure of cooperation of the peasant and the agriculturist in the field. That is where the individual comes in. An individual who is not used to be hustled into new ways, pushed about, is, I think, a bright individual. Once he is convinced, he moves. It takes some time to convince him, sometimes to make him get out of the old rut and look at the problem as a whole. There are, of course, all kinds of people, and it takes time.

But, unfortunately, just at the time when we try to do all this, ill-luck pursues us, as it has done in the past three years, continuously; a remarkable record of ill-luck. Well, it is mad and we must bear the responsibility for it. We cannot shirk it. Because, I do not believe in casting the responsibility on the Gods or on the monsoons. It is the responsibility of the human beings in this country and of the government of this country to meet any difficult problem that may arise. But in meeting that responsibility, I think, they are entitled to place the picture before this House and to seek the goodwill and co-operation of the House in dealing with this tremendous problem, because this really is the basic problem of India.

We talk about big schemes and big projects, hydro-electric works, steel plants and all that. But behind that all, encompassing everything that we have is the problem of agriculture, the problem of food and agricultural production. And I can assure this House that whether we succeed or fail, from time to time, we realise the utter, absolute and basic importance of this porblem in India. I should confess to this House quite frankly that I did not myself realise it. I realised it is important, always, but not quite hat much as I do today, the last year or two; certainly the last year or two. And if you had asked me 6, 7 or 8 years ago, I would have said this is a very important problem and I would have probably taken a much more easy and optimistic view than I subsequently did, not being an expert in it, only knowing the fact which everyone knows, that food is important and is to be produced in India or must be got from outside; it does not require an expert to know that. But gradually under stress of circumstances and failure of the monsoons in various parts and difficulties to get a move on in various matters, though we want to get a move on in various matters, though we want to get a move on in various matters. well, speaking for myself, I learnt that bitter lesson slowly and painfully, and I realise now that there is nothing more important in India than the production, agricultural production, more specially food production. So far as the Government is concerned. it realises that; so far as the Planning Commission is concerned; it realises that and works towards that end. We have tried to bring this realisation, so far as we could, to all the State Governments also, because the State Governments, knowing the importance of agriculture, were still paying attention to other matters a little more.

As I said. I am not dealing with the larger problem. Now, it is a very difficult and complicated matter to deal with in a few minutes which, with your indulgence. I have stolen from the time allotted to this House. But I would like to point out again, not by way of justification for anything that has happened but with a view to try to understand the problem, that you cannot take the eastern UP and you cannot, by any measure that you can devise, pull up the whole population of a heavily populated area, of a very economically backward

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part of the country. You cannot pull them up suddenly. It just cannot be done. You have to go through the difficult process, and I agree also that we should, all over India, pay much more attention to these areas, whether it is the eastern part of UP, or parts of Bihar, Madras, Orissa or Bengal. We must, by governmental measures, try to pull up the parts that are more backward, because the normal course, the normal laws and normal forces that work are always in favour of the better-off, not the lesser-off, whether you deal with individuals or you deal with nations. A nation that is prosperous will become more and more prosperous rapidly. A nation that is less prosperous may make double that effort, but the progress will be slow. It is the old maxim upto those that have, more shall be given, and from those that have not even what they have might be taken away. These are natural forces. These are forces of, if I may use the words, "unrestricted private enterprise". The moment you leave it to it whatever virtues private enterprise may have and it has some virtues—private enterprise crushes the weak and supports the strong. It marches on the shoulders of others. So the result is that as countries go ahead, so the regions in a country. The richer region in the country will advance faster, because it has got the guts, it has got the ability to advance, it has got the strength to advance. Take individuals. The poor peasent of eastern UP or Orissa is as good a man as anybody else. but when you compare him physically with, let us say, a peasant of the Punjab, obviously not. The Punjabi would be heftier, he eats three or four times as much, does a hard day's work and produces more, because he is better-circumstanced. Now, if we leave this to natural forces, the people of eastern UP will sink and sink and sink; as also peoples in other places in India, whether Madras or Orissa. Therefore, it becomes important for the State to come in, to try somewhat to redress the balance by helping more. In fact, all activities of the State, whatever we may do, whether it is some form of control or anything, is an attempt to do that. Even in the remedy there are some disabilities. The real thing is to raise the level of the people, to raise them physically, their capacity to work, their mental capacity for progress and take them out of the ruts. It is not a rapid process. It has to be gone through. So, I am merely pointing this out in relation to the more economically backward or unfortunate parts of our country. We have to look after them; we have to pull them up. It is no good one having an argument, as hon. Members apparently do: how bad are conditions in eastern UP? How do you measure that? They are, of course, bad. They have always been bad. I have seen them bad for the last 30 years. I think they are much better than what they were 30 or 40 years ago. Definitely they are better, if one can judge, apart from statistics, even from the crowds that one sees. I see crowds The crowd is far better now. It is better dressed and it has got better houses. (*Interruptions*)

Shri C D. Pande: Yes, they are better clothed

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am comparing with a time when some hon. Members opposite were not born.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: There are more Government officials in the crowds before you.

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Well, I am not aware that a crowd of a hundred thousand that I address has a majority of Government officials. These may be the crowds which the hon. Member addresses—small crowds. I have seldom addressed a crowd under 50,000 for many years.

However, I may be right or wrong. I am giving a personal impression of crowds, of their being better clad. I have no doubt about it. Of course, the pull towards poverty is always great and there is no power of resistance. Whenever a calamity comes, like a bad monsoon or a flood or a drought, down they go like ninepins. It is a fact. Whether a person has died of starvation or not I cannot say, but when a person lives in a semi-starved condition, it matters very little whether he has died of starvation or of some disease or of some weakness. It is a fine point which may be discussed by experts.

The point is that people in Eastern UP and in other parts of India like this live always on the verge of subsistence and are knocked down by anything that occurs. What can Government do in the circumstances? Well, it can do its best, but its best is not very much. It is something to carry on. And if a Government or the people are hit time and again by calamity it becomes exceedingly difficult to deal with that situation competently. But, as I said, let us deal with the situation as best as we can. The real thing ultimately is an increase and a fairly rapid and extensive increase of production. As I have said previously here, I am convinced of the fact that production can increase rapidly and considerably. There governmental factors come in, undoubtedly, but other factors—human factors of getting the millions of people on the move and psychological factors—come in. In that I would beg other hon. Members of this House and others to help. Condemn the Government if you like, but for heaven's sake do not suggest anything which condemns the millions of our people and makes it more and more difficult for them to make progress. What I mean is—and I say so with all respect—let us not create an atmosphere in the country of despair, of weakness, of impotence when people simply lie down and complain and blame and not get up and do the job themselves, because we have got to develop the habit of the ordinary man doing the job and not relying for almost everything on the Government, whatever the Government may be. The Government may change. (*Interruption*). May I finish, Sir. I want about half a minute more.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is important. One of the most dangerous developments in India in the last few years has been the quite extra-ordinary dependence of the individual or the outside authority—whether it is a municipality, whether it is somebody, whether it is a panchayat, whether it is a State Government or whether it is the Government of India—on some foreign help. It is always looking to somebody else for help. I do not deny that sometimes it has to be done; it should be done. It has to be done, but this mentality in the country is a dangerous mentality. The peasant and the farmer knows it there are so many things that he used to do which he does not do. He used to look after the village well or the village tank. Now, he wants the Government to do it all the time, and the village tanks are going to pieces. All the old *Zamindars* and *jagirdars* looked after it. He has vanished taking the tank with him or breaking up the tank in the process, whatever it is. So, all these factors remain in a changing society, changing social system, somewhat uprooting the old and the new not adapting itself adequately and fast enough to it. But this is, I do submit, perhaps the most dangerous development of always expecting others to do a job—this lack of self-reliance, self-dependence, feeling of self-help from every point of view.

Now, again I would qualify what I have said because there is at the same time a spirit of self-help also rising. This is a big country. You could see all the forces at play, both uphill

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forces and downhill forces. There is that spirit of self-help rising. The whole purpose and object of the Community Development movement is not to build roads, to build schools, to build this, to build that and to build anything. If it has one purpose, the real purpose, it is to build human-beings and make them self-reliant

Shri Karni Singhji (Bikaner): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in the five minutes that are at my disposal I shall only try and concentrate on the famine conditions that are now threatening the north western parts of Rajasthan. No doubt a large number of friends have been reading in the newspapers about the terrific famine that is threatening north western Rajasthan. I shall only read from the newspaper cutting in my hands:

> "Bikaner is groaning for water. Another few days like this and thousands of cattle, and maybe men and women, who do not migrate in time to the neighbouring areas, will be dying of thirst and starvation."

Sir, this is dated the 16th.

Rajasthan normally does have a scarcity once in three years, but a famine of this type, I believe, is the worst in the last fifty years. Therefore, I only wish to draw the attention of the House and my brother hon. Members here that we are likely to face a mjor catastrophe and the Food Ministry may be called upon to rush food to this area. I, therefore, only wish to give the Ministry and my hon. friends here a fair amount of notice so that after a fortnight or so when famine is officially declared in this area, we will be in a position to meet the emergency.

Food prices are likely to soar and we have to control those also. Fodder scarcity is already being felt there and therefore I wish to draw the attention of the Government to this aspect also so that we can save our cattle wealth.

To eliminate and to avoid this eternal problem of famines in Rajasthan, the Government has taken the right step, namely to bring the Rajasthan Canal and I would only like to request that the Government of India should try and use their good offices to see that the work on this canal is accelerated. I believe that at the present rate it will take ten years before the Rajasthan Canal will be irrigating this desert area. I hope that you will try to use your influence so that this work can be accelerated and that we can avoid famine once for all in five years from today.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Shall he be replying today?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes, he is replying today.

चौ० रणबीर सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कई दोस्तों ने यह बतलाने की कोशिश की है कि कृषि और खाद्य मंत्रालय की ओर से जो पुस्तिका छपी है वह कई लिहाज से गलत है। उन्होंने जो कुछ कहा उसको मैं ने बड़े ध्यान से सुना। मैं ने इस पुस्तिका को भी बड़े गौर के साथ पढ़ा है। इस पुस्तिका में जितने भी आकड़े दिये गये हैं और जो जो बातें दी गई हैं वे चाहे मंत्रालय के खिलाफ जाती हों चाहे हक में जाती हों, सब दी गई हैं और जितनी कारंवाइया की गई हैं, उन सब का इसमें जिक्र है। इसमें यह भी कहा गया है कि इन सब बातों के बावजूद जितनी सफलता वह चाहते थे, उतनी सफलता उनको अभी नहीं मिली है।

अनाज की कमी है और अनाज के भाव भी ऊंचे हैं, इस चीज को कई स्थानों पर माना गया है। इतना होने पर भी मेरी समझ में नहीं आया जब कई दोस्तों ने कहा कि इसमें गलत बयानी की गई है और उन्होंने

इस पुस्तिका के बारे में जो कुछ भी बुरा भला कहा, वह मैं समझता हूं जायज नहीं था । जहां तक मेरा ताल्लुक है मुझे कृषि और खाद्य मंत्रालय से और खास तौर पर कृषि मंत्रालय से पूरी पूरी हमदर्दी है । पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू जी ने ठीक ही बातें कही हैं और अगर उनसे पहले बोलने का मुझे मौका दिया गया होता तो मैं भी वही बातें कहता । मेरा खयाल है कि इसमें कृषि तथा खाद्य मंत्रालय का कसूर नहीं है और न ही इस देश के किसानों का ही कोई कसूर है और जो खुश्क की कमी हुई है इसमें इन दोनों का ही कोई कसूर नहीं है । जहां तक किसानों का वास्ता है उन्होंने सन् १९५४ और सन् १९५५ में अनाज का इतना उत्पादन करके दिखला दिया है कि हमारे कृषि तथा खाद्य मंत्रालय के पास इतनी ताकत नहीं थी कि वह तमाम का तमाम खरीद सकें । इस तरह से हमारे किसानों ने खाद्यान्न की, कपास की, गन्ने की तथा दूसरी चीजों की पैदावार को काफी हद तक बढ़ा कर दिखा दिया है ।

हमारी बहन सुचेता कृपालानी ने जिक्र किया और दूसरे दोस्तों ने भी कहा है कि करोड़ों रुपया खर्च किया गया है लेकिन कोई असर नहीं हुआ है । मैं समझता हूं कि हमारे दोस्त भूल जाते हैं इस बात को कि जब से हम आजाद हुये हैं तब से तकरीबन छः करोड़ के करीब हमारी आबादी बढ़ी है और इस छः करोड़ की आबादी को भी अनाज चाहिये तथा दूसरी जिन्दगी की जरूरियात चाहियें । ये सब चीजें कहां से आयेंगी । चूंकि हमारे यहां लोग तकलीफ में हैं इस वास्ते हमें दूसरे देशों से चीजें मंगवानी पड़ती हैं और बाहर से मंगाने वाली चीजों की मात्रा भी बढ़ी उतनी नहीं है जितनी कि आशंका थी । अगर आप सन् १९५२ या १९५४ के वर्षों को देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि डेढ़ सौ करोड़ रुपये का अनाज कम मंगाया गया था और इसकी वजह यह थी कि यहां अन्न ज्यादा पैदा किया गया था । यह तभी सम्भव हुआ था जब किसानों को सभी प्रकार की सहायता दी गई थी ।

कई दोस्तों ने गिला किया है कि करोड़ों रुपया दिया जा चुका है लेकिन लाभ कोई खास नहीं हुआ है । मैं उनको बतलाना चाहता हूं कि जितना रुपया किसानों को दिया गया है किसानों से उस से कहीं ज्यादा रुपये का अन्न पैदा करके दिखा दिया है जिस का नतीजा यह हुआ है कि बाहर से अनाज कम मंगाना पड़ा है और उसी हद तक उन्होंने हमारा फारेन एक्सचेंज बचाया है ।

मेरी कृषि मंत्रालय से इस वास्ते भी हमदर्दी है कि उसके साथ सौतेली मां का सा सलूक किया जाता है । जब यह मंत्रालय इस देश में अनाज की पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिये रुपया मांगता है या प्रान्त रुपया मांगते हैं तो इस देश का बहुत बड़ा प्लानिंग कमिशन जो है और जिस के अन्दर बड़े बड़े विशेषज्ञ शामिल हैं, इन्कार कर देता है । तमाम सूबों के कृषि मंत्रियों ने मिल कर के मांग पेश की थी तीन साल पहले कि हम को सौ करोड़ रुपया और दिया जाये, लेकिन उनकी इस मांग को ठुकरा दिया गया था और इसी प्लानिंग कमिशन ने ठुकराया था जिस प्लानिंग कमिशन ने अन्दाजा लगाया था कि पांच साल के अन्दर सिर्फ २४० करोड़ रुपये मूल्य का अनाज बाहर से मंगाने की जरूरत महसूस होगी । लेकिन मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूं कि आज तक जिस में यह साल भी शामिल है यह अंदाजा लगाया गया है कि ३८९ करोड़ रुपये बाहर से अनाज मंगाने पर खर्च करने पड़ेंगे । एक सौ करोड़ रुपया अधिक अनाज पैदा करने के लिये तो नहीं दिया गया लेकिन १६० करोड़ रुपया पांच साल के अन्दाजे से अधिक बाहर से अनाज मंगाने के लिये प्रोवाइड कर दिया गया है । मुझे पता नहीं कि वह १६० करोड़ रुपया कहां से आ गया है और जहां से यह रुपया

[चौ० रणवीर सिंह]

आया है क्या वहीं से एक सौ करोड़ रुपया नहीं आ सकता था ?

मेरे एक लायक दोस्त ने चाइना का जिक्र किया, मैं भी चीन का जिक्र करना चाहता हू और फिगर्स दे कर कहना चाहता हू कि हिन्दुस्तान के किसान चीन के किसान से पीछे नही रह सकते बशर्ते कि उस को वही सहूलियतें दी जायें जो आज चीन की सरकार चीन के किसान को देती है । क्या उन्हें अन्दाजा है कि पाच साल के अन्दर चीन की सरकार ने २००० करोड रुपया वहा की खेती की पैदावार को बढाने के लिये कर्ज की शक्ल मे या दूसरी शक्ल मे दी है ? लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान मे कितना रुपया दिया गया जरा इसका भी अन्दाजा कीजिये और फिर आप बताइये कि आप क्या चाहते है । हिन्दुस्तान के आजाद होने के बाद १३६० करोड रुपया अनाज को बाहर से मगाने के लिये खर्च किया गया । प्लैनिंग कमिशन से भी मुझे हमदर्दी है क्यो कि मैं जानता हू कि हिन्दुस्तान मे जब यह कोशिश की जाती है कि पेपर करेन्सी को बढ़ा कर किसानो के ऊपर पैदावार बढाने के सम्बन्ध में रुपया खर्च किया जाय । यहा के व्यक्ति बडे बडे आर्थिक विशेषज्ञो, विशेषकर हमारे बहुत से साथी जो हमारे लिये बडी बडी रिपोर्टें लिखते हैं, डेफिसिट फाइनेंसिंग के खिलाफ आवाज उठाते हैं, लेकिन मेरा कहना है कि हो सकता है कि डेफिसिट फाइनेंसिंग से भी भाव कुछ ऊचे होते हो, लेकिन बाहर से जो रुपये खर्च कर के हम अनाज मगाते है उस से भी भाव अगर ऊचे जाते हैं । तो इस से तो यह अच्छा है कि भाव ऊचे हो हमारे अपने देश में पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिये रुपये खर्च करने से । अगर हिन्दुस्तान में रुपया का प्रसार किया जाय और उस से भाव ऊचे हों तो ज्यादा अच्छा है बजाय इस के कि हम बाहर से अनाज मगाने के लिये जो रुपया खर्च करते हैं उस से भाव ऊंचे हो ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अब आप का समय समाप्त हो गया, इस लिये आप समाप्त करें ।

चौ० रणवीर सिंह सरकार को जिस पजाब से डेढ़ लाख और दो लाख टन अनाज मिलता है, वहा के लोग तो पीछे पड जाते हैं लेकिन जो दिल्ली को रिप्रेजेन्ट करते है जो कि दो लाख टन अनाज पजाब से लेकर खाते है उन को ज्यादा वक्त मिलता है । हम इस दिल्ली शहर को खिलाने के लिये दो लाख टन अनाज देते हैं, हम पर बोलने की पाबन्दी लगाई जाती है, यही नही आज जो लोग बोले है उन मे से उन लोगो को ज्यादा वक्त नही दिया गया जो कि अनाज पैदा करने वालो को रिप्रेजेन्ट करते हैं, मौका उन लोगो को ज्यादा दिया जाता है जो कि खाने वालो को रिप्रेजेन्ट करते है । जो लोग अनाज को पैदा करने वाले हैं, वे इस बात को अच्छी तरह समझते है कि उन को मौका नही मिलेगा । मेरे लायक दोस्त प्रोफेसर रबा जो कि इस विषय के विशेषज्ञ समझे जाते है, वे यहा काफी देर तक बैठे रहे, फिर उठ कर चले गये, उन को भी मौका नही मिला । मैं आप का मशकूर हू कि आप ने कम से कम मुझे तो बोलने का मौका दिया । अगर देश को अधिक अनाज पैदा करना है तो पैदा करने वालो की बात सुननी होगी और उनको मौका देना होगा वरना अनाज को बाहर से मगा कर जिन्दा रहना होगा ।

श्री आलेर (रत्नागिरि) उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज देश में अनाज का संकट पैदा हो गया है, यह सब लोगो ने बताया है और आज जनता में इस बारे में बड़ी चिन्ता है । सरकार की ओर से जितने भी आश्वासन दिये गये उन में से एक भी आश्वासन पूरा नहीं हुआ । इस का कारण यह है कि आश्वासन देते समय उन आश्वासनों को पूरा करने के लिये कोई निश्चित योजना नहीं होती, विशेषकर सिंचाई, योजना के बारे में तो कम

से कम यह बात बिल्कुल सही है। जो सिंचाई योजनायें बनाई गई हैं वह ऐसी हैं जिन का देश के लिये हाल में कोई उपयोग नहीं है। जो थोड़ी बहुत छोटी सिंचाई योजनायें बनाई जाती हैं वे तैयार तो हो जाती हैं लेकिन उन के फलस्वरूप जितना आवश्यक अनाज पैदा नहीं होता। सरकार की ओर से श्वेत पत्र निकला है लेकिन इस के पढ़ने से ऐसा आभास होता है कि इसमें कोई भी बात स्पष्ट रूप से नहीं रक्खी जाती है। उस में कहा गया है कि अनाज के भाव स्लाइटली बढ़े हैं। इस "स्लाइटली" के क्या माने हैं इस का पता नहीं। इस में एक और बात की गई है। जहां पर भाव ज्यादा बढ़े हैं उन के बारे में स्पष्ट रूप से उल्लेख नहीं किया गया है, लिख दिया गया है कि स्लाइटली बढ़ गये हैं। बम्बई में चावल का भाव ३५ से ४० रु० मन हो गया है लेकिन इस का निर्देश इस किताब में नहीं किया गया है। हर जगह ऐसा ही हुआ है। जहां भाव ज्यादा बढ़े हैं वहां के बारे में भाव निर्देश नहीं किया गया है लेकिन जहां थोड़े ही बढ़े हैं वहां के बारे में बता दिया गया है कि इतने बढ़े हैं।

दूसरी बात यह बताई गई है कि जहां पर भी अनाज का संकट है, सरकार जनता को अनाज देने के लिये सस्ते गल्ले की दूकानें खोल रही है। लेकिन हमारी बहन सुचेता कृपालानी ने बताया कि दिल्ली के अन्दर क़रीब करीब ४२७ दुकानें खुली थीं, लेकिन जिस दिन से भाव बढ़ने लगा, उस के थोड़े दिन पहले ही से ४०० दूकानें बन्द कर दी गईं। मुझे पता चला कि बाक़ी २७ दूकानें भी बन्द कर दी गई हैं। बन्द करने का कारण क्या है यह मुझे पता नहीं लेकिन मैं जानता हूं कि बम्बई में दिल्ली से अधिक कष्ट हैं। सरकार को इस दृष्टि से विचार करना चाहिये कि जनता को कष्ट अधिक न हो और जहां भी सस्ते अनाज की दूकानों की आवश्यकता हो वहां उन का खोलना आवश्यक है। इस बारे में मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि कहीं कहीं जो दूकानें खोली गई हैं, उन में से अनाज मिलने में बड़ी देर होती है, दो दो तीन घंटे खड़े रहने के बाद जा कर कहीं अनाज मिल पाता है। इस लिये आज जितनी दूकानें हैं उन से काम नहीं चल सकता क्योंकि हर एक दूकान के आगे बड़ी भीड़ जमा हो जाती है। वहां धक्का मुक्की हो जाती है और तब भी अनाज नहीं मिलता है। कभी कभी तो अनेक आदमियों की मृत्यु भी हो जाती है। मैं हर जगह घूमा करता हूं। हमारे खाद्य मंत्री जो हैं उन का गांव सहारनपुर में है। आज उस की स्थिति क्या है? एक दूकान पर ऐसा हुआ कि एक बुढ़ढी अनाज लेने के लिये खड़ी थी। वहां इतनी भीड़ थी, उस भीड़ में कुचल जाने से उस बुढ़ढी की मृत्यु हो गई। आज सस्ते अनाज की दूकानें खुली हैं। इन दूकानों में सस्ता अनाज दिलाने का प्रबन्ध ठीक से होना चाहिये। इसी तरह से आज का अनाज का संकट दूर हो सकता है।

हमारा बम्बई प्रान्त घाटे का प्रान्त है। लेकिन ऐसा होते हुए भी वहां हर साल बाढ़ आती है। परिणामस्वरूप वहां की जो हलकी फसल होती है, विशेषकर चावल की वह खत्म हो गई है और वहां आज अकाल की स्थिति पैदा हो गई है। अपने रत्नागिरि डिस्ट्रिक्ट में मैंने देखा है कि देहातों के अन्दर अनाज नहीं मिलता और अनाज के लिये २५, ३०, ४० मील पैदल लोगों को आना जाना पड़ता है जिस से उनके कम से कम तीन चार दिन खराब हो जाते हैं। आज हमारे यहां यह स्थिति है। इस दिक्कत को दूर करने के लिये हर गांव के अन्दर सस्ते गल्ले की दूकानें खोलने की आवश्यकता है। अगर आप ऐसा नहीं कर सकते तो जैसी परिस्थिति अनाज के बारे में आज है वैसी ही बनी रहेगी। आज उत्तर प्रदेश के पूर्वी जिलों में अकाल आया हुआ है, मैं थोड़े ही दिन हुए उत्तर प्रदेश हो कर आया हूं। वहां की स्थिति मैंने देखी है।

[श्री आसर]

बाढ़े आई हुई हैं, मीलों पानी भरा हुआ है और फसल खत्म हो गई है। गांव गांव में हाहाकार मचा हुआ है और लोगों में अनाज के लिये बड़ी परेशानी है। मैंने सुना है कि वहां पर अनाज न मिलने के कारण लोग भूखों मर रहे हैं। कहते हैं वहा पर ६ आदमी भूख की वजह से मर गये। यही हालत आज अनेक गांवों में हो रही है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : कौन से गाव में ?

श्री आसर : बस्ती में, तलाश कीजिये कर।

एक माननीय सदस्य : पंजाब मे क्या हो रहा है ?

श्री आसर : आज सब लोग कहते हैं कि अनाज की पैदावार बढानी आवश्यक है। ग्रो मोर फूड कम्पेन बड़े जोरो से चल रहा है। आखिर कम्पेन के माने क्या है ? बड़े बड़े पोस्टर निकलते हैं छप कर और देहातो मे उन का वितरण होता है। लेकिन मुझे पता नहीं है कि इन पोस्टरो के वितरण से क्या अनाज बढेगा ? इस के लिये कोई निश्चित योजना सरकार की ओर से नही बनाई गई, और इस के कारण यह परिस्थिति पैदा हो गई है। मुझे याद आता है कि एक राजा के यहां शादी का भोजन था। भोजन के लिये सब लोग इकट्ठे हो गये। भोजन खत्म हो चुकने के बाद पान खाने के लिये दिये गये। जब लोग पान खाने बैठे तो उन में चूने का डब्बा नही था। इस के परिणामस्वरूप जो आने वालों के नेता थे उन्हों ने कहा : राजा जी, चना नही है पान के लिये। राजा जी ने अपने प्रधान से कहा कि प्रधान जी, चूना नही है, प्रधान जी ने अपने [illegible] आदमी से कहा कि चूना नहीं है, उस आदमी ने क्लर्क से कहा कि चूना नहीं है। सब लोग "चना नहीं है" "चना नहीं है" करने लगे, लेकिन चने का कहीं पता नहीं था। आध घंटा हो गया, एक घंटा हो गया चूना नहीं आया। वैसे ही हमारे अनाज का कोई पता नहीं है। सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने आयोजन किया है अनाज बढ़ाने का। स्टेट गवर्नमेंट कहती है डिप्टी कमिश्नर को कि अनाज बढाओ, डिप्टी कमिश्नर कहता है तहसीलदार से कि अनाज बढ़ाओ, तहसीलदार कहता है पटवारी से कि अनाज बढ़ाओ। लेकिन कौन अनाज बढ़ाये ? अनाज को बढ़ाने वाला तो वह है जिस की जमीन है। इस के लिये सरकार ने क्या किया है, हमें यही परेशानी है। इस लिये मेरा सुझाव है कि सरकार को अनाज की पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिये निश्चित कदम उठाने चाहियें।

एक माननीय सदस्य : आप भी तो वही कहते है।

श्री आसर : इधर से आवाज आती है कि आप भी सब से कहते हैं कि अनाज बढाओ। हां, मैं कहता हूं, लेकिन साथ में यह कहता हूं कि अनाज को बढ़ाने के लिये निश्चित सुझाव रखने चाहियें इसी से अनाज की पैदावार बढ सकेगी। इस दृष्टि से प्रयत्न किया जाय नही तो खाली कम्पेन में ही लाखों रुपये खर्च हो जायेंगे पर परिस्थिति ठीक नही होगी और अनाज भी पैदा नही होगा। आज अनाज बढाने के बारे में जो कम्पेन की जा रही है उस के बारे मे मैं जानना चाहता हूं कौन सूचना देता है कि योजना से अनाज बढ़ रहा है। इस दृष्टि से यह जरूरी है कि जो भी योजना की जाय उस के लिये किसी एक आदमी पर जिम्मेदारी डाली जाय। उस को इस की जिम्मेदारी दी जाय कि वह अपना काम पूरा करे और अनाज की पैदावार बढ़ाये।

श्री विश्वनाथ राय (सलेमपुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पिछले दो साल से खाद्यान्न का मूल्य लगभग १६, १७ प्रतिशत बढ़ा है।

खाद्यान्न का मूल्य जो सन् १९५२-५३ में १०० रुपये था सन् १९५७ में ११०·७ रुपये हुआ और सन् १९५८ में जा कर ११७·१ हो गया। खाद्यान्न के इस प्रकार दाम बढ़े हैं। इस मूल्य वृद्धि के कई कारण हैं। सूखा भी है, बाढ़ भी है और जनसंख्या की वृद्धि भी है। लेकिन उसका एक कारण यह भी है कि हमारे देश में जो विरोधी दल हैं वे खाद्यान्न के भाव बढ़ने और गल्ले की कमी के सम्बन्ध में इस तरह का आन्दोलन तथा प्रचार करते हैं और अनुचित प्रचार करते हैं कि जिस के कारण जनसाधारण में और व्यापारियों में ऐसा वातावरण उत्पन्न होता है कि चूंकि गल्ले की बहुत ज्यादा कमी हो गई है इसलिये भाव बढ़ने चाहियें।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप के द्वारा उन राजनैतिक पार्टियों और विरोधी पार्टियों से मेरा यह अनुरोध है कि देश में जो गल्ले की कमी है और मूल्य बढ़ रहा है उस परिस्थिति का सामना करने के लिये हमारे विरोधी दल हम से सहयोग करें, सरकार से सहयोग करें और इस तरह का जो अनुचित प्रचार होता है वह बन्द करें। उसी हालत में जनता में वह मानसिक भाव उत्पन्न होगा जिस से ग़ल्ला ज्यादा उत्पन्न हो सकेगा। साथ ही साथ जो यह वातावरण उत्पन्न होता है कि भाव तेज़ हो जायें वह चैक हो सकेगा। मैं इसी साल की बात कहता हूं। अभी दो, तीन महीने पहले उत्तर प्रदेश के एक हिस्से में जब गेहूं का भाव १७ रुपये मन था तो देवरिया में इस तरह का प्रचार करने और वातावरण पैदा करने से गेहूं का भाव २१ रुपये मन तक हो गया था। यह नहीं है कि वहां ग़ल्ले की दुकानें नहीं हैं। ग़ल्ले की दुकानें हैं और वहां पर वितरण भी होता है। लेकिन इस तरह के अनुचित प्रचार से जो वहां पर होता है ग़रीबों की हानि होती है और उस से देश का नुक़सान होता है। इस तरह के अनुचित प्रचार और ग़लत वातावरण को बन्द करने के लिये सरकार को प्रयत्न करना चाहिये तथा लोगों में एक दूसरे और सरकार के साथ सहयोग करने तथा उन में आत्मविश्वास की भावना उत्पन्न करनी चाहिये।

उस के साथ ही साथ मैं अपनी सरकार से यह कहना चाहता हूं कि आखिर जब सब लोग मानते हैं, बहुत दिनों से सैकड़ों वर्षों से जब इस बात को सब लोग जानते हैं कि यहां पर खेती-बारी बहुत कुछ मौनसून पर निर्भर करती है और वर्षा न होने की हालत में फसल मारी जाती है और सूखा पड़ जाता है तब इस चीज़ को रोकने के लिये और ऐसी असाधारण परिस्थिति को जो गत वर्ष सूखे के कारण उत्पन्न हुई थी रोकने के लिये और उस का सामना करने के लिये कौन से कदम उठाये गये जिस से हम उस संकट और परिस्थिति का सामना कर सकें? यह कहा जा सकता है कि ट्यूबवैल और नहरें बनाई गई लेकिन अभी भी हमारे देश में ८० प्रतिशत ज़मीन ऐसी है जिस में सिंचाई के साधन मौजूद नहीं हैं। इधर ६, ७ वर्षों में जो ट्यूबवैल बने हैं और उन के द्वारा जो सिंचाई की गई है वह भी ऐसी है कि एक बगल की ज़मीन की सिंचाई पर प्रति एकड़ ३ रुपये लागत आती है तो ट्यूबवैल से सिंचाई करने में लागत ७ रुपये प्रति एकड़ आती है। एक जगह के बारे में मुझे यह मालूम हुआ कि एक एकड़ धान की बुवाई के लिये ट्यूबवैल से पानी लेने और सिंचाई करने में ५४ रुपये लागत आई है। नहर और ट्यूबवैल से सिंचाई की व्यवस्था में इतना अन्तर है और इस कारण ग़रीब किसान उस सिंचाई व्यवस्था से पूरा लाभ नहीं उठा सकते हैं। इस मूल्य वृद्धि का यह भी कारण है कि सिंचाई की कमी और उस की उचित व्यवस्था का अभाव।

जो माइनर प्राजेक्ट्स हैं उन के बारे में कहा गया और भी बड़ी बड़ी योजनाओं के बारे में बातें कही गई हैं। इस देश में उत्तर प्रदेश का पूर्वी भाग सब से अधिक ग़रीब है। उस के सम्बन्ध में अभी अभी प्रधान मंत्री

[श्री विश्वनाथ राय]

महोदय ने भी यहां पर कहा है और आत्म-विश्वास उत्पन्न करने की बात कही है। उस के सम्बन्ध में मुझे यह कहना है कि हमारी एक बड़ी योजना—गंडक योजना—भी है और उस से क़रीब ३४ लाख एकड़ भूमि की सिंचाई हो सकती है। उस के बारे में हमारी सरकार ने अब तक उतना ध्यान नहीं दिया है जितना उस का कोसी योजना के बारे में है या नागल के बारे में है या दामोदर वैली की जो योजना थी उस के सम्बन्ध में है। वह एक ऐसी योजना है जिस से उत्तर प्रदेश तथा बिहार के क़रीब दो, ढाई करोड़ लोगों की समस्या हल हो सकती है। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के सामने जो समस्या है और आज आप के बिहार के कुछ हिस्से की जो समस्या मौजूद है उस को हल करने में यह सहायक हो सकती है लेकिन उस योजना की तरफ जितना ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये था नहीं दिया गया, कम ध्यान दिया गया। अब एक ओर तो खाद्यान्न का मूल्य बढ़ता जा रहा है और बढ़ते बढ़ते उन का मूल्य ११७·६ तक पहुंच सकता है तो मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि हमारे वे किसान जो ईख की खेती करते हैं वे इस मूल्य वृद्धि से क्यों वंचित रक्खे जायें। आखिर देश वही है, किसान वही हैं, स्थिति, वातावरण और आर्थिक स्थिति वही है। एक तरफ तो हम चीनी की दर एक रुपये सेर की करते हैं चीनी का मूल्य चालीस रुपये मन तक हो सकता है और गेहूं का भाव बढ़ सकता है और दूसरे अनाजों का भाव बढ़ सकता है लेकिन गन्ने की खेती करने वाले किसानों को वही एक रुपय सात आने और एक रुपये पाच आने देते रहना कहां तक उचित है? यह जो अन्तर रक्खा गया है उस पर सरकार का ध्यान जाना चाहिये और उस को खत्म किया जाना चाहिये। गवर्नमेंट को यदि चीनी एक्सपोर्ट प्रोत्सा हनआवश्यकता है तो क्या उन को प्रोत्साहन देने से यह काम पूरा नहीं हो सकता है? मैं समझता हूं कि प्रोत्साहन देने से अवश्य होगा।

अन्त में मुझे यही कहना है कि सिंचाई और फ़र्टिलाइज़र्स की बड़ी योजनायें अभी पूरी नहीं हुई हैं तो सरकार कम्पोस्ट और हरी खाद के सम्बन्ध में इन्तज़ाम करे। उस के साथ साथ पहले के जो काठ वगैरह के हल और एम्पलीमेंट्स हैं उन के बदले लोहे के औजार बनवाने की कोशिश करे और नये ढग मे उन को इस्तेमाल में लाने की कोशिश करे ताकि उन से अधिक फ़ायदा उठाया जा सके।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, Shri Rajendra Singh.

Shri M. C. Jain (Karthal): I have given notice of a substitute motion.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Shri M. C. Jain: Unless such persons as have given notice of such motions are given chances, how can the House accept their motions?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have called Shri Rajendra Singh now.

Shri Rajendra Singh: I am very thankful to you for even at the fag end you have been so kind as to give me time.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Only five minutes.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Within the limited time at my disposal, I find it difficult to explain my mind to this House, much as I would like to do it. The Prime Minister who spoke just now has raised a very big issue. He feels that the people are looking to Government for everything. For every matter, for every difficulty, they just look to the Government for help, and if the help is not

forthcoming, they feel despondent and blame the Government. I do not know to what extent the Prime Minister is correct. But if it is so, I do agree that it is a very dangerous trend. But the root problem is: who is responsible for this state of affairs, if it is true? I honestly think—and I feel many Members of this House share my view—that for this state of affairs the Government of India and the Congress Governments all over the States are responsible.

My leader, Shri Asoka Mehta, and Shri Naushir Bharucha said that 16 committees were appointed to inquire into the foodgrain problem, and many of them made very valuable suggestions. But this Government is so impervious, so nonchalant, indifferent and callous to intelligent and representative opinion in this country that nothing has been done so far. Not one of their vital recommendations has been accepted by this Government. That indicates that if the Government is impervious, if the Government is callous and indifferent to the representative and intelligent voice of the country, a sense of despondency, a sense of helplessness creeps over the people. Much as they would like to co-operate with the Government and help the Government, the Government does not desire the help of the people.

Many Members on that side of the House have said that the food situation is something which can be tackled only on a national scale and with national effort. But may I know what the Government has done so far to enlist national support and national co-operation? They talk about it, but where is their performance?

My leader, Shri Asoka Mehta, raised many points and covered wide ground. I had a desire to approach those things from my own viewpoint, but since time is limited, I leave them there. But I want to speak about Bihar. The Food Minister was once in my district when the drought condition was too bad. I was there in that meeting. He wanted our opinions. We expressed our views and he agreed with them. But what was the result? Everything was left to the wooden-headed bureaucracy. The result was that people in despair, in helplessness just were left where they were. In my part of the State in the presence of the Food Minister, I stated, and he agreed—and many officials, many MPs. and M.L.A. also agreed—that for every square mile there is a population of 5000; my constituency is not an industrial constituency, it is a rural constituency. In that rural area, you have a population of 5000 per square mile. Then just imagine the condition of the people. Every year since the last five years, everywhere you have either drought or flood. Of course, the Government of Bihar came to the help of the people as much as it could. Now the people of Bihar owe the Government of Bihar Rs. 40 crores, and with government treasury depleted, it wants to realise the money. But where is the money with the people?

I suggest to the Food Minister an to the Government of India that if they want that the people of Bihar should revive in them a sense of self-confidence, a sense of belief in their own ability and capacity to lift themselves from this morass of sheer helplessness, the least that they can do is to rush to the help of the Government of Bihar. The first thing—and the least they can do—is to write off the loans that have been advanced to the agriculturists.

So far as my information goes, since the last 4 or 5 years the Government of Bihar could not realise its revenue even to the extent of 30 per cent. Then, there was drought, floods and all these calamities.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member must conclude.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Just two minutes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is also a calamity. I am helpless; what can I do?

An Hon. Member: This calamity can be averted, Sir.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (West Dinajpur): This is a calamity for others also, Sir. If one hon. Member exceeds his time limit that means he takes it from others.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Therefore, it is a calamity for me.

Shri Rajendra Singh: The paramount necessity of that area is the Gandak project. I have seen through the projects that are undertaken or are likely to be undertaken and I have known the amounts that are likely to be spent on those projects. I assure the House that there is not a single project already undertaken or is likely to be undertaken which is so cheap, so far as the foreign exchange component is concerned, as this Gandak project.

16.57 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair.*]

But it is an irony of the situation that this Government did not find it possible to undertake this project now. It will not only benefit North Bihar or some districts of Bihar but also several districts of U.P. and parts of Nepal also.

I know they have some difficulties with the Government of Nepal. Nepal is a friendly country and we have our Embassy in that country. If we energetically and deftly approach the Government of Nepal, there is no reason why we cannot have a speedy and amicable settlement. But the Government moves so slowly and at snail's speed that if there are some slight difficulties it goes back with the result that the people of Bihar are today on the verge of extinction. If we do not rush to their help here and now not only will North Bihar be on the brink of ruin but it will mean also the ruin of other people in other States.

Mr. Speaker: Sardar Iqbal Singh. I understand from the hon. Deputy-Speaker that hon. Members have agreed to speak only for 5 minutes each.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi (Hamirpur): I am also one of them.

सरदार इकबाल सिंह (फीरोजपुर) : जनाब स्पीकर साहब, मैं सब से पहले यह कहना चाहता हूं कि आज किसान के दिल पर यह असर है कि उसे सबसे पहले पैदा करना है ताकि शहर के लोगों को, मजदूरों को, कारखानों में काम करने वालों को सस्ते में सस्ता अनाज मिल सके, चाहे उसकी तकलीफें कितनी ही हों, चाहे उसका बोझा कितना ही हो, चाहे उस पर टैक्सेज कितने ही हों, चाहे जो वह पैदा करता है उसमें उसका पूरा पड़ता हो या न पड़ता हो, इस बात का इस देश को ख्याल नहीं है। इस सिलसिले में हजारों इनक्वायरी कमेटीज बनी लेकिन किसी कमेटी ने यह बात जानने की कोशिश नहीं की कि मुख्तलिफ हिस्सों में, मुख्तलिफ सूबों में, मुख्तलिफ जगहों में, मुख्तलिफ जमीनों में खेती पर कितना खर्चा आता है ताकि आज कम से कम एग्रीकल्चर डिपार्टमेंट यह कह सकता कि फलां जगह पर किसान का इतना खर्चा होता है इसलिए हम कह सकते हैं कि इतने दाम में किसान को अनाज देना चाहिए। आज वह माहौल नहीं है। आज इस देश में जो माहौल है वह यह है कि किसान को किसी भी ढंग से सस्ता अनाज देना है। ताकि कलकत्ता, बम्बई, देहली जैसे बड़े बड़े शहरों में लोगों को सस्ता अनाज मुहय्या हो सके। चाहे किसान को जो आमदनी होती है उससे उसके बच्चों का पेट भरे या न भरे। इसलिए जब

तक आप इस माहौल को दूर नहीं करेंगे तब तक देश की पैदावार उत्साह के साथ नहीं बढ़ सकती । आप जब तक किसान की तकलीफों को दूर नहीं करेंगे तब तक गल्ले की पैदावार नहीं बढ़ सकती ।

17 hrs.

मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि आपने मारकेटिंग ऐक्ट बनाया है और भी बहुत से ऐक्ट बनाये हैं लेकिन आप देखें कि हिन्दुस्तान में मारकेटिंग की क्या हालत है । इसके बारे में आपने कोई इनक्वायरी नहीं की और न इसके बारे में कोई ऐक्ट बनाया है । और अगर आज अनाज महंगा हो गया है तो इसमें किसान का कोई कसूर नहीं है । किसान ने तो अपना गेहूं १३ या साढ़े १३ रुपये मन में बाजार में बेच दिया । अब अगर वह महंगा होता है तो इसलिए कि मिडिल मैन ज्यादा मुनाफा लेना चाहता है और कुछ इसकी वजह वह पाबंदियां हैं जो आपने लगा रखी हैं, कुछ अनाज की कमी भी है । आज किसान में उत्साह इसलिए नहीं है कि आज किसान की तकलीफों को देखा नहीं जाता है । आप देखें कि एक-एक मंडी में उस पर कितना टैक्स लग जाता है । आप देखेंगे कि आज ट्यूबवैल की सिंचाई का एक एकड़ का ५४ रुपया तक देना पड़ता है । मैं कहता हूं कि जब अनाज महंगा होता है तो रिजर्व बैंक की सारी मैशीनरी उसे सस्ता करने के लिए मूव हो जाती है । लेकिन जिस दिन अनाज सस्ता होता है उस दिन रिजर्व बैंक यह कहता है कि हमारे पास पैसा नहीं है । सन् १९३९ में रिजर्व बैंक ने एक विभाग शुरू किया था जिसका काम किसानों को मदद करने का था । लेकिन उस विभाग का काम जाहिर नहीं हुआ और न उसने जैसा कि कहा गया था उस ढंग से मदद दी । इसलिए मैं समझता हूं कि रिजर्व बैंक भी अपने काम में पूरा नहीं उतरा ।

इसके साथ मैं एक और बात कहना चाहता हूं । पंजाब एक सरप्लस सूबा है । लेकिन हम चाहते हैं कि जिस ढंग से आप पंजाब से लें उसी ढंग से उसे दूसरों को दें । आपको पंजाब के किसान को जवाब देना होगा । आप उससे उसका अनाज १३ रुपये मन लेते हैं लेकिन यहां पर कनज्यूमर को २५ और २७ रुपये मन देते हैं । इसके लिए आपके पास क्या जस्टीफिकेशन है और आप किस ढंग से पंजाब के किसान को जवाब दे सकेंगे । यहां पर किराया इतना ज्यादा है कि एक जगह अनाज इतना सस्ता है और दूसरी जगह इतना महंगा है । अगर आप सस्ता लेना चाहते हैं तो सस्ता लें लेकिन जिसको देना है उसको भी तो सस्ता दें । जब आप देने वालों को महंगा देते हैं तो किसान से सस्ता लेने का आपको क्या हक है । इसलिये इस के साथ ही हम यह भी कहना चाहते हैं कि अनाज की कमी और भी दूर हो सकती, अगर आप किसानों की मामूली मामूली तकलीफों को दूर करने की कोशिश करें । आज पानी का जो आबियाना है, सारे हिन्दुस्तान में उस के बारे में जांच-पड़ताल कर के उस को ठीक ढंग पर लाया जाये, तो अनाज की पैदावार में काफी ज्यादती हो सकती है । इस के अलावा तमाम हिन्दुस्तान की मार्केट्स को रेगुलेट करने के लिये एक मार्केटिंग एक्ट बनाया जाना चाहिये । इस से किसानों में उत्साह पैदा होगा और वे महसूस करेंगे कि उनको लूटने से बचाने के लिये और उनकी प्रोटेक्शन के लिये कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ।

आज सब से बड़ी बात यह है कि इस कंट्री के माहौल को बदलना होगा, इस ख्याल को बदलना होगा कि शहर के लिये सस्ता अनाज मुहैया करना है । सरकार कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन का ख्याल रख कर ही अनाज की कीमतों का फैसला करे । आज आप कहते हैं कि आप का फूड एंड एग्रीकल्चर डिपार्टमेंट किसानों के फायदे के लिये बनाया गया है । आप यह बात किस ढंग से कह सकते

[सरदार इकबाल सिंह]

हैं ? चने की कीमत छः रुपये मन मुकर्रर की गई है । क्या आप हिन्दुस्तान के किसी हिस्से के स्टेटिस्टिक्स या आंकड़ों से यह साबित कर सकते हैं कि छः रुपये मन में चना पैदा हो सकता है ? आप ने उस की कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन का ख्याल नहीं किया है । आप की पालिसी का यह नतीजा होगा कि या तो किसान पर कर्जा बढ़ेगा, या उस के बच्चे भूखे मरेंगे और या उस ने अपनी मेहनत का जो सरप्लस रुपया लगाया हुआ है, वह नहीं बचेगा । इस पर भी आप खामोश हैं । इसलिये मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इस से पहले कि आप यह कहें कि यह सस्ता है और यह महंगा है, आप कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन के बारे में जांच-पड़ताल करायें और किसान की तकलीफों को कम करने की कोशिश करें । आप देश में यह माहौल बनायें कि किसान जो कुछ पैदा करता है, वह देश के हित के लिये पैदा करता है, न कि चन्द लोगों के हित के लिये । आप को इस माहौल को बदलना है कि किसान को चन्द लोगों के लिये सस्ता अनाज, सस्ती कपास, सस्ती शक्कर और सस्ती जट पैदा करनी है ।

बस, मुझे इतना ही अर्ज करना है ।

Mr. Speaker: Shri M. L. Dwivedi. I would request hon. Members to be brief now.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Sir, shall we be sitting up to 6·30?

Mr. Speaker: Yes; but I must call the hon. Minister at 5·30.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे देश में जो खाद्य संकट उत्पन्न हो रहा है, उस के सम्बन्ध में अनेक सदस्यों ने अनेक तरह की बातें बतलाई हैं । हमारे मंत्री महोदय ने भी कई बातें बतलाई हैं और वह इस दिशा में एक बड़ा अथक प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं कि हमारे देश की खाद्य समस्या सुलझ जाये । मैं एक छोटा किसान हूं और मेरे घर में पीढ़ी दर-पीढ़ी खेती होती आई है । हमारे पास कुल बारह पन्द्रह एकड़ जमीन है और मैं किसानों की समस्या को जितनी अच्छी तरह समझ सकता हूं, मेरे ख्याल में वे लोग, जो कि इस मसले पर एक दार्शनिक दृष्टिकोण से विचार करते हैं और जो पुस्तकों के ज्ञान के आधार पर काम करते हैं तथा किसानों के पास नहीं पहुंचते हैं, उन की समस्याओं को उस तरह समझने में असमर्थ हैं । यही कारण है कि हमारे खाद्य-उत्पादन में कमी हो रही है और हम यह समस्या हल नहीं कर पा रहे हैं ।

सिंचाई के बारे में हमारी सरकार ने जो प्रयत्न किये हैं, जो योजनायें बनाई हैं, उन में बड़े बड़े बांध जरूर तैयार किये गये हैं, लेकिन उन बांधों से जो कठिनाई उत्पन्न हो रही है, वह आप सोच लीजिये । हमारे इलाके में एक दो महीने तक पानी दिया गया, जिस से फसलें सड़ गईं । दूसरा पानी नहीं दिया गया, इसलिये फसलों को नुक्सान हुआ । इसलिये इस बात पर रोक लगाई जानी चाहिये कि पानी उचित समय पर दिया जाये और लगातार एक बार नहीं, दो तीन बार दिया जाये । अगर यह व्यवस्था की जाये, तो फसलों का नुक्सान बच सकता है ।

जहां तक सिंचाई सम्बन्धी कर का सम्बन्ध है, कम से कम हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश में ऐसा है कि चाहे एक पानी दिया और चाहे तीन पानी दिया, टैक्स सब को एक सा देना पड़ता है— एक पानी प्राप्त करने वाले को भी उतना ही टैक्स देना पड़ता है, जितना कि तीन पानी प्राप्त करने वाले को देना पड़ता है । मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि यह एक बेजा बात है । अगर एक पानी दिया जाता है, तो जाहिर है कि केवल एक तिहाई फसल को फायदा पहुंचता है, दो तिहाई फसल को फायदा नहीं पहुंचता है । इसलिये एक पानी वालों से पूरा कर लेना ठीक नहीं है । मैं मानता

हूं कि यह उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की समस्या है, लेकिन आप केन्द्र में बैठ कर नीति को निर्धारित करें और गैर-मुनासिब बातों को जारी न रहने दें ।

जिन इलाकों में बांध नहीं बन सकते हैं, वहां छोटी बंधिया बन सकती हैं । इस सम्बन्ध में आप ने यह नीति अपनाई हुई है कि अगर १०० रुपये में एक एकड़ सैलाब कर दें, तो बंधी बनाई जाये और अगर इस से अधिक खर्चा हो, तो बंधी न बनाई जाये । हमारे इलाके की कठिनाई यह है कि कहीं २०० रुपये फी एकड़ में बंधी बन जायेगी, कहीं ३०० रुपये फी एकड़ में बन जायेगी और कहीं पचास रुपये में भी बन जायेगी । मेरा निवेदन यह है कि यह सीमा नहीं होनी चाहिये कि केवल १०० रुपये खर्च किये जा सकते हैं बल्कि इस बात की अनुमति देनी चाहिये कि २००, २५० और ३०० रुपये तक खर्च कर सकते हैं । इस प्रकार खाद्य-उत्पादन बहुत बढ़ जायेगा और जो लोग असमर्थ हैं उन को बहुत सहायता मिल जायेगी ।

तकावी में आप ट्रैक्टर के लिये पचास हजार रुपया देते हैं, लेकिन ट्रैक्टर से सिर्फ एक हजार एकड़ भूमि जोती जा सकती है । अगर आप वही तकावी बैलों पर २०० रुपया फी आदमी दें, तो मैं आप को यकीन दिलाता हूं कि चार हजार एकड़ की जुतवाई होगी । और फिर ट्रैक्टरों के लिये पैसा किस को मिलता है । जिन के पास पहले से पैसा है, वे अपना प्रभाव डाल कर तकावी ले लेते हैं दस हजार रुपया, और अपना पैसा वे ब्याज पर लगा देते हैं । यह देखा गया है कि अमीर आदमी ही अधिकतर तकावी पाते हैं । मेरा कहना यह है कि आप उन लोगों को तकावी दें, जो कि मुस्तहक हैं, जिन के पास पैसा नहीं है और जो उस का ठीक इस्तेमाल करेंगे ।

जो मेन्योर है—नई किस्म की खादें हैं, उन का क्या उपयोग हो रहा है ? जहां पर सिंचाई नहीं है, वहां किसानों को जबर्दस्ती खाद दी जाती है । वहां उस का उपयोग नहीं होता है और फसलें जल जाती हैं । पानी नहीं होता है, लेकिन तहसीलदार जबर्दस्ती खाद देता है । दूसरी जगह, जहां सिंचाई है, वहां स्थिति यह होती है कि अधिकारी और अफसर लोग यह नहीं जानते कि खाद कहां और कैसे देनी चाहिये । उन लोगों को व्यावहारिक ज्ञान नहीं होता है । वे तो सिर्फ जबानी जमा-खर्च जानते हैं कि ऐसे डालो और वैसे डालो । आज-कल के किसान को तब तक कोई लाभ नहीं पहुंच सकता है जब तक कि उस को व्यावहारिक ज्ञान के आधार पर सहायता और परामर्श नहीं दिया जाता है । आप इस प्रश्न पर विचार करें कि आप के अधिकारी वास्तविक अर्थों में—व्यावहारिक ज्ञान दे कर—किसानों की मदद करें । अगर ऐसा नहीं किया जायेगा, तो हमारी खाद्य समस्या उलझी पड़ी रहेगी और हमारे किसान लाभ नहीं उठा सकेंगे ।

हमारे डिमान्स्ट्रेशन फार्म्स में खर्चा ज्यादा होता है और आमदनी कम होती है । किसान देखते हैं कि जब ये लोग अपने फार्म में ही ठीक ढंग से काम नहीं कर पाते हैं, तो वे सोचते हैं कि हम को इन से ज्यादा लाभ नहीं होगा । इसलिये जब तक आप के डिमान्स्ट्रेशन फार्म सैल्फ-सफिशेंट नहीं होंगे और खर्च से ज्यादा उत्पादन नहीं करेंगे, तब तक जनता पर उन का प्रभाव नहीं पड़ सकता है ।

आप किसानों को जो फैसिलिटीज देते हैं वे ज्यादातर उन को नहीं मिल पाती हैं और दूसरी जगह पहुंच जाती हैं । कर्मचारियों में बड़ी करप्शन फैली हुई है । रुपया लेकर तकावी मिलती है । अगर किसी को ५०० रुपये तकावी मिलनी है, तो उस को १०० रुपया क्लर्कों और दफ्तर के दूसरे लोगों को देना पड़ता है और उस को सिर्फ

[श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी]

४०० रुपया मिलता है और ब्याज उन को कुल रकम का देना पड़ता है। अगर इस की रोक-थाम नहीं होती है, तो बड़ी गल्ती है। तकावी कम है और लेने वाले ज्यादा हैं। इसलिये उस के बांटने में बड़ी दिक्कत पड़ती है। या तो आप तय करें कि तकावी ज्यादा लोगों को देनी है, तब तो ठीक है, अन्यथा तकावी देने से कोई लाभ नहीं है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : तकावी ज्यादा होनी चाहिये।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी: तकावी तो जरूर ज्यादा होनी चाहिये।

इस सम्बन्ध में जो समितियां काम कर रही हैं, उन के कहने से तकावी मिलनी चाहिये और उन में जो पब्लिक-मैन हों, वे ज्यादातर किसान हों, दार्शनिक ज्ञान वाले और अधिकारी-गण कम हों।

मूल्यों के बारे में सब से बड़ी कठिनाई यह है कि जब फसल आती है, तो गल्ला सस्ता होता है—किसान को सस्ते दामों पर बेचना पड़ता है, लेकिन जब फसल खत्म हो जाती है, उस वक्त दुगने और चौगने दाम हो जाते हैं। जब फसल आई थी, तो गेहूं का भाव दस बारह रुपये मन था और अब बीस इक्कीस रुपये मन भी गेहूं नहीं मिलता है। इस का नुकसान किसान ही को होता है। इस के पीछे शायद आप का यह ख्याल है कि सिर्फ बिजिनेसमैन की मदद करें या आप असमर्थ हैं और कुछ कर नहीं पाते हैं। मेरा कहना है कि जब तक आप इस नीति को कट्टोल नहीं करेंगे, किसान का कोई लाभ नहीं होगा और उस का खेती करने और उत्पादन बढ़ाने में कोई उत्साह नहीं होगा।

जहां तक पैस्चर्ज का प्रश्न है, आप की तमाम जमीन खेती में लगती जाती है। हमारे यहां खेती बैलों से होती है। इसलिये कुछ जमीन घास के लिये—अच्छी किस्म की घास के लिये—छोड़ी जानी चाहिये और वह किसान अपनी खेती में से नहीं छोड़ना चाहता है। सरकार की नीति यह होनी चाहिये कि कुछ घास के मैदान हर जगह पर रखे जायें, ताकि तगड़े और अच्छी खेती करने वाले बैल हों। आज स्थिति यह है कि बैल कमजोर होते जा रहे हैं और खेती नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। पहले वे बीस एकड़ में खेती कर लेते थे और अब सिर्फ दस एकड़ में खेती कर पाते हैं।

इन छोटे सुझावों के साथ मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि आप इस बात पर ध्यान दें कि जहां ऐसे रकबे हैं, जहां खेती ज्यादा और अच्छी होती है, वहां तो आप जरूर ध्यान दें, लेकिन जो कुछ पिछड़े हुए इलाके हैं, जिन की ओर हम ने आज तक तवज्जह नहीं दी है, जहां हम ने लोगों के फायदे के लिये कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की है, जहां हम ने अभी तक उन्नति नहीं की है, वहां हमारा अधिक ध्यान केन्द्रित हो, ताकि वे लोग ज्यादा अन्न उपजाने में हमारी मदद करें।

मैं मंत्री महोदय का इस बात के लिये मुबारकबाद देता हूं कि उन्होंने देश में सस्ते गल्ले की दुकानें खोली हैं। उन से देश में भुखमरी मिटी है। मुझे आशा है कि ऐसे कदम वे आइन्दा भी उठाते रहेंगे। लेकिन मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि इस सम्बन्ध में जो कठिनाइयां हैं, उन को दूर करने का प्रयत्न किया जाना चाहिये। दुकानों में साधारणतया गल्ला कम है जिस से त्राहि त्राहि मची हुई है। जहां भी आप दुकानें खोलते हैं, वहां आप इफरात से गल्ला पहुंचायें ताकि लोगों को कठिनाई न हो।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आशा करता हूं कि जो बातें कही गई हैं, उन पर ध्यान दिया जायेगा और माननीय मंत्री ने जो काम किया है, उस के लिये मैं उनको बधाई देता हूं।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर (बाह्य दिल्ली—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियां) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका बड़ा आभारी हूं कि समय कम होते हुए भी आपने मुझे अपने विचार प्रकट करने का मौका प्रदान किया है ।

दिल्ली में वैसे तो खेती के लायक जमीन बहुत कम है किन्तु दिल्ली की अपनी कुछ विशेष समस्यायें हैं और उनकी ओर मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । कई बार यहां पर, इसी सदन में, मैंने झील नजफगढ़ के बारे में प्रश्न किये हैं और हमारे कृषि मंत्री जी ने उनके उत्तर में मुझे बतलाया है कि जो नजफगढ़ नाला है वह खुद रहा है और उससे १६०० एकड़ जमीन भी निकल आयेगी । लेकिन मुझे दुःख के साथ यह सूचित करना पड़ता है कि आज तक वह १६०० एकड़ जमीन नहीं निकली है और आज भी किसानों की जो जमीन है वह पानी में डूबी हुई है । कई बार यहां पर आश्वासन दिये गये हैं और यह कहा गया है कि अमुक समय में अमुक काम हो जायेगा किन्तु वह नहीं हुआ है । नजफगढ़ नाले के ऊपर लगभग चार लाख रुपया व्यय किया जा चुका है । एक तरफ तो नाला खुदता है और दूसरी तरफ नाला भरता जाता है । एक तरफ तो पैचिंग लग रही है और दूसरी तरफ उसके पत्थर गिरते जा रहे हैं । यह अवस्था ठीक नहीं कही जा सकती है । आपको रुपये का सदुपयोग करना चाहिये और अच्छी तरह से देखना चाहिये कि जो रुपया खर्च किया जा रहा है वह जाया तो नहीं हो रहा है । दिल्ली के बारे में जो रिपोर्ट छपी थी उस को मैं पढ़ा था । दिल्ली के अन्दर यह कहा गया है कि पैदावार बढ़ रही है । किन्तु जब मैं गावों में जाता हूं और गांव वालों से पूछता हूं तो वे लोग कहते हैं कि पैदावार कम होती जा रही है और जब सरकारी आंकड़ों को देखता हूं तो उन से पता चलता है कि वह २० प्रतिशत बढ़ गई है । अब किस की बात को सत्य माना जाये । किसानों की बात को सत्य माना जाये जो जमीन में हल चलाते हैं और चीजें पैदा करते हैं या उन अफसरों की बात को सत्य माना जाये जो कि केवल दफ्तरों में बैठ कर के आंकड़े तैयार करते हैं और उनको प्रकाशित करवा देते हैं । इस ओर भी हमारे मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान जाना आवश्यक है ।

यमुना के किनारे जो गांव हैं उन में साल साल २५ गांव पड़ते हैं । प्रतिवर्ष उनमें बाढ़ का पानी आ जाता है और इसके बारे में कई बार प्रार्थना की गई है, लिखा गया है और कहा गया है किन्तु उस ओर कोई ध्यान ही नहीं दिया जाता है ।

Mr. Speaker: Order, order The hon. Member will resume his seat. The hon Members wanted the discussion to go on till 6-30 Already I am afraid, you have no quorum

Shri S. M. Banerjee: They are outside, they will come when the reply starts

Mr. Speaker: Oh As soon as the Minister starts, they will come

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : एक पल्ला गांव है । वहां पर चार साल हुए बांध बह गया था लेकिन आज दिन तक वहां पर दूसरा बांध नहीं बनाया गया है । कई बार कहा गया है कि वहां पर बांध बांध दिया जाये ताकि सैकड़ों और हजारों एकड़ भूमी इस बाढ़ के प्रकोप से बच सके और पैदावार बढ़ सके लेकिन कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया है । इसी तरह से यमुना के आस पास के गावों में हर वर्ष तबाही आती है और उस ओर भी मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान जाना बड़ा आवश्यक है ।

छोटे छोटे बांध बनाने की भी स्कीमें हैं और वे चल भी रही हैं । महरौली की तरफ छोटा बांध बनाने की स्कीम है और उसका उल्लेख द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना

[श्री नवल प्रभाकर]

मे है और पहली मे भी उसका उल्लेख था और कहा गया था कि वह पूरी हो जायेगी लेकिन अभी तक उसको पूरा नही किया गया है । मै समझता हू जो योजनाये बनती है वे कागज पर ही रह जाती है और उनको अमली जामा पहनाने की कोशिश नही की जाती है । इस ओर भी मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान जाना बडा आवश्यक है और उनको देखना चाहिये कि जो योजनाये बनती हैं वे पूरी होती हैं या नही और अगर नही होती हैं तो उनको पूरा किया जाना चाहिये ।

हमारे यहा किसानो को एक बडी शिकायत है और वह यह है कि उनको समय पर बीज नही दिया जाता है । जब समय बीत जाता है तो उनसे कहा जाता है कि बीज आ गया है और तुम आ कर ले लो । यह तब होता है जब वे लोग जैसे तैसे कर के बाजार से बीज खरीद कर ले आते हैं । वैसे तो उनको दो महीने पहले ही बीज मिल जाना चाहिये ताकि वे समय पर बो सके लेकिन समय पर बीज न देकर जब वक्त बीत जाता है, बीज देने की व्यवस्था की जाती है । अगर उनको समय रहते बीज मुहैया कर दिया जाये तो वे उपज अच्छी कर सकते हैं । यही खाद का भी हाल है । जिस समय उनको खाद मिलनी चाहिये, उस समय खाद न देकर उस समय दी जाती है जब उसकी आवश्यकता नही रह जाती है । किसी के पास इतना पैसा नही होता है कि वह बीज और खाद को पहले से ही खरीद कर रख ले । बीज के बारे मे तो यह बात भी लागू होती है कि वे उसको स्टोर नही कर सकते हैं क्योकि अगर वे एक साल पहले ही ले कर रख ले तो उसमे कीडा लगने का डर रहता है और फिर वह किसी काम का नही रह जाता है । ऐसी सूरत में मेरी माननीय मत्री जी से प्रार्थना है कि उनको समय पर बीज तथा खाद देने की व्यवस्था की जाये । हमारा दिल्ली का एक छोटा सा सूबा है । यहा पर कोई राज्य सरकार नही है । इस सूबे पर सीधे आपकी हकूमत चलती है, आपके आदेश चलते हैं । आपकी छत्रछाया के नीचे यह सूबा है । मैं समझता हूं कि जब एक बडी सरकार के मातहत कोई राज्य हो या कोई इलाका हो तो उसकी अच्छी तरह से देखभाल हो सकती है, लालन पालन हो सकता है किन्तु मैं देखता हूं कि यहां वही बात है कि दीपक तले अंधेरा । दिल्ली के सम्बन्ध मे मै यह कहना चाहता हू कि जितनी यहां लापरवाही बरती जाती है उतनी शायद और किसी दूसरे राज्य के सम्बन्ध मे नही बरती जाती है । इस वास्ते मे कहना चाहता हू कि दिल्ली के साथ उपेक्षा नही की जानी चाहिये ।

अन्त मे मै इतना ही कहना चाहता हू कि जितनी बाते मैं ने कही हैं उनकी ओर माननीय मत्री महोदय ध्यान दें और किसानो की जो दिक्कतें हैं उनको दूर करने की चेष्टा करे । किसानो की जो जमीन है वह उन से दिन-प्रति-दिन खिनती चली जा रही है और इस ओर आपका ध्यान जाना बहुत आवश्यक है । एक बार फिर मे कहना चाहता हू कि नजफगढ़ झील की वजह से बहुत तबाही हो रही है । उस नाले के लिये आपने स्कीम बनाई थी जो कि आज तक पूरी नही हुई है । लिफ्ट इरिगेशन की भी आपने एक स्कीम बनाई थी जो कि अभी तक पूरी नही हुई है और मैं चाहता हू कि उसको भी आप आगे बढ़ाये ताकि उसके द्वारा दूसरी जगहो को पानी दिया जा सके, अधिक जमीन की सिचाई की जा सके और अधिक अन्न पैदा हो सके ।

अन्त मे मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूं कि जो सुझाव मैं ने दिये हैं उनको कार्यान्वित करने की चेष्टा की जाये

Mr. Speaker: Members from U.P have spoken Anybody from Orissa who has spoken?

Shri Panigrahi: One.

Mr. Speaker: Any particular State from which nobody has spoken so far?

An Hon. Member: Only one member has spoken from Andhra.

Mr. Speaker: Bengal is constantly in threat of famine.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: U.P. is the worst affected area.

Mr. Speaker: Five members have spoken from Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Panigrahi: Only one member from Orissa.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for having given me this opportunity even at the close of this debate. We have just now heard the Prime Minister. It was very kind of him to intervene in this debate. But I feel it would have been better to leave the Food Minister alone to face the criticisms of the House as best as he could. The Food Minister has heard many hard things. On my behalf, I shall, give him some thanks. That is in my interest. He kindly paid a visit to my constituency and has thereby made my task easy. He has seen by himself the distress of the people there. There is not only food scarcity and the soaring prices, but the people have lost even their purchasing capacity. There is no rise in the purchasing capacity of the people.

From the reports that have appeared in the papers from yesterday, I find that after a serious drought, now there are floods in parts of Malda and, of course, in West Dinajpur, news of which up till now has not come; but it will come. That is aggravating the distress of the people much more. I believe he has in his mind the distress of the people of that State in other parts as well, Central Bengal as well as the western parts of Bengal, to which also he paid a visit. The distress of the people is awful, and harrowing tales have appeared in the press. Very serious notice ought to be taken of the conditions there. Of course, I admit that the State Government and also the Central Government are trying to do what they can in the circumstances. But I must say that we feel something more should be done.

Coming to the food problem, I feel that our food difficulty is becoming something like a chronic disease. The problem appeared in the pre-Independence India. Various schemes for grow more food campaigns were prepared and executed. The total result of all this, if we judge them today, is that we have got greater amount of literature on food than increased amount of food itself. That is the difficulty. I feel more should be done.

From the White Paper I find that this chronic condition is going to continue. It is stated:

> "The food situation, briefly put, is that there has been a continuous increase in demand while the supply has been limited due to failure of rains and inability to import larger quantity due to foreign exchange difficulties."

If this is the position, the position is not going to improve in the near future, from what we find nowadays. The White Paper also makes an attempt to diagnose the causes of the present distress. It has mainly referred to the rise in population and the rising demand due to growing purchasing power. The question is whether the diagnosis is correct. Let me give an example. It is stated in the White Paper that the price index has gone up from 97 to 109 between January to July this year.

Shri A. P. Jain: 100.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: 109, I believe. That is the figure. Are we to believe that our population has suddenly gone up during this period or the purchasing power of the people has suddenly gone up during these

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six months? That is the question I put before him. But he does not mention a very major factor The major factor is the failure of human agency in different stages through which official policy is put into operation The failure mainly occurs in matters of distribution The result is that even with the stocks being there people do not get them at the time of their need or when a crisis is developing The matter is further aggravated by the difficulty of transport

Speaking for north Bengal I can say, and I believe the hon Minister also knows that, that had there been proper transport from Calcutta to north Bengal, half of the difficulties of that area would have been lessened We have been crying hoarse in this House and also outside for a small railway line known as the Khojuriaghat railway line and if that were there much of the difficulties would not have appeared at all In fact, I have ascertained from the Food Minister of West Bengal that food sent from Calcutta to north Bengal at times takes more than a month to reach the required place More than a month and at times 1½ months is the time taken and this is all due to the lack of proper transport and the particular railway line that has been prayed for and has not been acceded to I believe the hon Minister himself will agree with me that had the railway line been there his own difficulties in taking food to north Bengal would have been much less than what they are now

So far as the river valley schemes are concerned, in them we have found some disappointment upto this time We were under the impression that water collected in the reservoirs would be available at the time of droughts, but we have found this time that it is not so In fact, the officials in charge of working these schemes have let people know that water is released only when rains come so that water is allowed to pass along the channel of the river but not released in the canals for irrigating the places through which these canals pass In fact, there had been areas in Murshidabad District which could have been irrigated if Mayurakshi water could have been released in time The land was lying dry and the water was passing out through the river itself but was not released in the canals because, they say, it cannot be done unless the monsoon comes I do not know what is this method of working

Judging from the present state of things I am under the impression that the agricultural programmes which were taken up now and then have not given us the desired effect or the effect that had been calculated that they would produce In fact, we are pursuing a hand to mouth policy Whenever there is deficit we cry for food imports Imports come and they are distributed through the fair price shops and that is all What is wanted is a steadiness in our life What is wanted is a stabilised condition of life on which we can depend and on which we can construct our own life as something permanent We are always in a state of flux, in a state of insecurity as regards our food supply This is a thing which I want to go

In this connection, I want to refer to the import policy That policy is designed to make India wheat-minded Of course we expect that some time or other India is to become self-sufficient in food I request the Food Minister and the Government to consider whether India can at any time be made self-sufficient in food only by the supply of wheat I believe, if it is to be made self-sufficient in food, it must be through rice So, we have got to consider whether this continuous dependence on wheat and procuring of wheat from foreign countries are the actual solution or permanent solution of the food problem that has come up in this country

I wish to make only two suggestions; one is, the officers of the department should be persuaded to leave their desks, move amongst the people, see their distress, find out for themselves what has to be done and at what place and do it at the needed time. Another is, when there is an apprehension of rise of prices, Government should come into the market with its stocks before the feeling grows amongst the people that the price of foodgrains has begun to rise. That is, time must be taken by the forelock and if it is done that way, only then can the rise in prices be controlled. Otherwise we shall have to continue in this state of flux in which we find ourselves today.

In the end, I wish to make one request to the Food Minister. By continuous dependence on other countries in the matter of food supply, such an essential factor of our life, I do not believe we are enhancing our prestige. 'याचञा च माननाशाय" that has been the advice from time immemorial in this country. Today, so long as we have got foreign exchange available to us, some measure of relief would be available. When this amount of foreign exchange will not be available, I do not know what is going to happen. My request is that the food policy be designed in such a way that this continuous dependence on supply of food from foreign countries may be obviated as soon as possible.

Shri A. P. Jain: Mr. Speaker, I fully share the anxiety of the House about the food situation. The very fact that you have been pleased to extend the time for the Food debate three times indicates that the House is very keen to discuss the various aspects of the food problem. However when we face a difficult situation, we must face it with a cool head and balanced mind. Any passion or anger which is brought to bear upon a problem only clouds and confuses our vision. I would, therefore, request hon. Members to judge the food situation today in a dispassionate manner.

You will agree that the Food debate has covered a very large area. I do not say that the matters which have been raised are irrelevant. But, I do submit in all humility that many of the matters which have been raised in the course of the debate are not within the compass of this Ministry. For instance, many things have been said about the major and medium irrigation works. They are very relevant to food production. I have myself been observing with a sense of great anxiety that the potential of irrigation which has been developed from these sources has not been fully utilised. I have participated in the discussions for the quicker use of this potential. But, nonetheless the House will not expect me to express any opinion on the various suggestions which have been made for putting up this major irrigation work or that irrigation work. I am not in a position to do it.

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): Why has the water not been utilised?

Shri A. P. Jain: In my opening speech, I gave some reasons. One of the reasons was that in certain places, the main canals had not been built, in other places the field channels had not been built and in other places the farmers had not converted dry land into wet land.

These are the reasons given, they are being looked into.

Shri M. C. Jain: Who will co-ordinate these activities?

Shri A. P. Jain: Of course, the Ministry concerned, the Ministry of Irrigation and Power.

Shri M. C. Jain: That is our objection.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: We are not concerned with these excuses, we want results.

Shri A. P. Jain: Many things have been said about the community projects. Community projects are very closely associated with the production activities I am also having constant discussions with the Minister, Community Development, but many questions in regard to the detailed working of that department have been raised which will some time have to be replied to by the Minister concerned.

Again, some questions regarding the setting up of the fertiliser factories have been raised Fertiliser factories are of the utmost importance I have been impressing both upon the Cabinet and upon my colleague the Minister of Industries that early steps should be taken for the setting up of those factories

Shri Rajendra Singh: You are impressing on them that the fertiliser factories should be taken up What is their view in the matter?

Shri A. P. Jain: Well, they agree with it, and they are trying for it

Things have been said which concern the Ministry of Health, that is about population The question of population is an important one, because upon it depends the demand. Several things have been said about the railways The hon Member who preceded me said that if a railway is built between North and South Bengal, much of the difficulty of transport will be overcome That is a fact

Another aspect of this problem is that while I cannot absolve myself of the responsibility for food production, nonetheless, under the Constitution it is a fact that the primary responsibility for production lies with State Governments So far as the Centre is concerned, we have got a system of planning under which the plans of the State Governments, including plans for agricultural production, are approved by the Planning Commission in consultation with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. There are certain other matters, for instance, higher education, research etc., which are the direct responsibility of the Central Government. In regard to food, we shoulder a greater responsibility both with regard to import and procurement and the supplies to the State Governments. Therefore, naturally while I cannot absolve myself of the responsibilities both about food and its distribution and about agricultural production, nonetheless I can be directly held responsible only for those things for which the Constitution places responsibility on me.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: You only carry these to the Prime Minister. He has just now stated the whole thing is a collective decision of the Cabinet

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes, yes I have not denied that

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: We shall be obliged

Shri A. P. Jain: But what I am trying to distinguish is that there are certain things which are my direct responsibility, there are certain things for which I am constructively responsible, there are certain things for which I am jointly responsible with the State Governments

Many things have been said here on which the hon Members have expressed rather conflicting opinions They are important ones For instance .

Shri M. C. Jain: If the Minister can take this attitude, what about the lower officials at the district level? They will have the same excuse.

Shri A. P. Jain: On many of the matters which are of considerable importance, conflicting views have been expressed by the hon. Members. For instance, take the case of imports. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava said that it is a sin to import a single grain. On the other hand, Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri and Shri A. C. Guha, have

as to why I have not imported more in order to meet cent per cent the deficit of West Bengal and other States?

Then, in regard to land reforms, some conflicting views have been expressed. Hon. Member Shri Parulekar said that one of the causes which has stood in the way of agricultural production, and I share his view, is the delay in the implementation of the land reforms, and among them, he has pointed out the ceiling also. Some other Members, particularly Shri J. R. Mehta, have opposed this. He says ceiling should not be imposed. Dr. Subbarayan also expressed the same view.

Then, some of the hon. Members have pleaded for strengthening the zonal restrictions, while others have opposed it. While, naturally, so many views have been expressed, it is not possible for me in the face of all these conflicting opinions to express views on every one of these matters. Nonetheless, I propose to deal with some of the important matters that have been raised here.

First, I shall deal with the White Paper. Quite a large number of hon. Members including Shri Asoka Mehta have said that the White Paper is uninspiring.

Shri Yadav: I want to ask one question.

Shri A. P. Jain: What is the question now?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Hon. Members will kindly note down whatever points they want elucidation on, and in the end, after the Minister resumes his seat, they may ask one or two questions. Let them not interrupt now.

Shri A. P. Jain: I was saying that a number of hon. Members including Shri Asoka Mehta have said that the White Paper is uninspiring. They have said that it is an attempt to whitewash the situation. Every one of the hon. Members in this House has seen the White Paper. Where is the attempt to whitewash? What is the fact that we have concealed? We have accepted the gravity of the situation. We have stated all the facts, whether they are favourable or unfavourable to us. I submit that it is a candid document. It was not meant to be a propagandist document. We have abstained from expressing any views. We have confined ourselves only to giving the facts which may assist hon Members in forming their own views.

An Hon. Member: It is a script.

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes, it is scripted; it is not a thesis. It was not meant to deal with all aspects of the problem, but only with important aspects of the problem. I dare say, anybody who looks at the White Paper will agree with me that it deals with the essential and important features of the food problem. I am not talking of the agricultural problem

The object of the paper was to present particular aspects of the food situation, namely, availability and demand for foodgrains, the extent to which and the manner in which the gap is to be bridged, the price levels and the like matters. It would not, therefore, be fair to say that the White Paper has not discussed this aspect, this particular matter or that particular matter.

Shri Parulekar said that the White Paper had made no reference to the socialisation of the trade. I got up and asked him a question: 'Is this scheme of procurement and distribution through the fair price shops not an attempt for socialising the trade?' He said that he would like me to read—he thought I had not read it—the Foodgrains Inquiry Committee's report. He referred page 86 of the report. I would like the hon. Member not to read but to hear me. The relevant portion is this:

> "We would like to emphasise here that until there is social control over wholesale trade, we shall not be in a position to bring about stabilisation of foodgrain prices. Our policy should, therefore, be

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that of progressive and planned socialisation of the wholesale trade in foodgrains."

Fair price shops are not wholesale shops. Yet, they are also controlled; they are supplied foodgrains at a particular price, and they have to sell at a particular price. I do not say that there are not malpractices here or there, but they have to sell at that particular price

Shri Tangamani: The whole paragraph may be read

Shri Parulekar: The paragraph below that may also be read.

Mr. Speaker: The hon Members have got the books before them

Shri Tangamani: The hon Minister has referred to that, and he is only reading that paragraph which is favourable to him

Mr. Speaker: Emphasis is laid on some portions, whichever portions are favourable to one party are emphasised by that party

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: They are anxious to advise the Minister

Mr. Speaker: Merely because others want him to read, let him not read

Shri A. P. Jain: The Foodgrains Inquiry Committee have devoted quite a few paragraphs to the subject of fair price shops They have approved of the scheme and they have suggested that in appropriate cases, identity cards should be issued so that malpractices with fair price shops may be eliminated They have not anywhere recommended that fair price shops should be abolished On the other hand, they have approved of them What the Committee have suggested is that there should be no wholesale dealer in the sector which is socialised Now, what do we do under procurement and in respect of imported foodgrains? We import foodgrains We have no wholesaler in between the retailer and Government. Wheat is supplied to fair price shops In procurement, either it is the Central Government or the State Government which directly procures Imports are also made direct so the wholesale trade is socialised. That is exactly what the Foodgrains Inquiry Committee recommended. If this is not socialisation, what else is socialisation of a certain sector of the foodgrains trade?

Even the extent to which we have socialised is quite considerable. In India we are producing about 58 million tons of cereals and after meeting the seed requirements, the balance left is over 50 million tons and the market surplus is of the order of 16 to 18 million tons. Government today are handling between 3 and 3·5 million tons without using the middlemen, which amounts to about 15—20 per cent of the total trade which is handled in the market Is that not socialisation of the trade to a considerable extent?

Shri Asoka Mehta said that the White Paper had not dealt with the problem of marketable surplus That problem has been dealt with in his Report I really do not know what he wanted us to put in the White Paper, about it

Shri Asoka Mehta: It is not enough to know what is the production position and demand position What is the state of arrivals, whether anything is being held back and so on? I was referring to that kind of information

Shri A. P. Jain: In his own Report, Shri Asoka Mehta has suggested that for the collection of these figures, we must set up an intelligence department We have set up that department. It has just started working Up till now, we had no system of collecting all-India figures about it and we were not in a position to give any firm figures in 30 mandis I do not want to give any questionable figures, but roughly speaking, we have got some figures from the 30 mandies of U.P. U.P. has been collecting some rough figures. The position was something like this In the early part of the year, right up to the end of April, arrivals in the market were about 50 per cent higher than what they were last year. But when the news about the loss of the rabi crop spread in the

market, arrivals began to slow down and in the first or second week of May, they went down as low as 40 per cent. Then gradually they began to rise and now they may be of the order of 60 per cent of what they were last year. That is, roughly speaking, the position. But as I did not have firm figures, I did not want to hazard doubtful figures. Nonetheless, the contention of Shri Asoka Mehta that it is really the marketable surplus that determines the price and not the total production is correct.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava—unfortunately he is not here—said that neither the White Paper nor I gave any time limit within which the country would become self-sufficient. Self-sufficiency is our goal and we shall make every effort to become self-sufficient. But persons much bigger than myself had given certain dates which did not come true.

On the last occasion I was put a definite question, I do not remember whether in this House or in the other House, whether I could prescribe a date And, I frankly confessed that while our aim is self-sufficiency and even to produce more of foodgrains for export, nonetheless I would not fix a date because I am not in a position to fix a firm date.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava in his resolution has said that by adopting the steps which he has suggested India would become self-sufficient in two years' time (*Interruption*). That is his assertion. I am sorry he is not here; I wish he were here because when an hon. Member makes very serious allegations and suggestions, he should at least have the courtesy to be present in the House to hear the other side.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: When the Deputy-Speaker was here it was mentioned that the hon. Minister may or may not speak today.

Shri Ranga: He has gone to some other committee.

Shri A. P. Jain: Whatever that may be, I have a right to say that hon. Members who say some things should also hear the other side.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: There is another committee meeting, Sir. And the hon. Member may be busy there.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever the hon. Minister says will be conveyed to him.

Shri A. P. Jain: Is Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava in a position to convince the House or the Prime Minister that his scheme will make India self-sufficient in two years' time?

Shri Ranga: At least there is a scheme.

Shri A. P. Jain: There is a scheme; there is also our scheme. But is he in a position to assure the House or is the House prepared to accept that his scheme will make India self-sufficient in two years' time. (*Interruption*)?

So far as food and its distribution is concerned, some suggestions have been made I consider Shri Tridib Chaudhuri to be a representative of one school of thought. That is, whatever be the deficit in any State, whether it be Bengal or whether it be Bihar or U.P., irrespective of its extent, we should import sufficient foodgrains from abroad and make up the deficiency.

That raises many questions. First is the question of the availability of foreign exchange. All our food imports today are divided into two parts, food imports which we purchase through our own foreign exchange and other imports which we make under PL 480 Every body in this House knows what our foreign exchange position is. The only allocations made to this Ministry—I say it could not be otherwise—are for the purchase of Burma rice and for the purchase of wheat for normal requirements. The rest of the purchases have to be made under PL 480. That position has been made amply clear in the statement

[Shri A. P. Jain]

made by my hon. colleague, the Finance Minister, the other day in this House

Are we in a position to buy foodgrains from abroad in order to make up the total deficit? Is rice available in the world? Shri Bhattacharyya said that we are importing more of wheat and we are trying to feed people who are used to rice on wheat. Wheat will never be grown in sufficient quantities in India to meet all the requirements of India. These were his points. But, is rice available in the world today? The rice crop failed in the major producing countries, Burma and the like just as it was damaged in our country Burma had agreed to give us 5 lakh tons of rice this year Actually, they could not make that supply and they have cut it down to 3 lakh tons.

So far as Bengal is concerned, Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri himself said that the deficit was of the order of 7 lakh tons. From 1st January to the end of July, we have supplied to West Bengal 3,99,000 tons of wheat We have also supplied 1,16,000 tons of rice; that is a total quantity of 5,15,000 tons out of a total requirement of seven lakh tons. Still there are five months to go

Shri Rajendra Singh: What about Bihar?

Shri A. P. Jain: I gave figures in the beginning. So far as supplies are concerned, I have stated in the House in my opening speech that I am confident that we shall be able to maintain the supplies at the present level and we can increase them only if new contracts are made and if new quantities are available. I cannot hold on any better hope than that. Some complaints have been made about the fair price shops. I am not prepared to say that all the fair price shops are free from any malpractices. There may be malpractices. Nonetheless it has been our constant endeavour to strengthen inspection and control We have advised the State Governments but I may make it clear that while the supply of foodgrains is the responsibility of the Centre, the internal distribution is that of the State Governments. We have advised all the State Governments that they should appoint popular committees of the representatives of the local people, consisting of five persons, and they should supervise the fair price shops. In most of the States, they have been set up. Maybe, some may not have set up such committees, or maybe, there may be other difficulties I am not prepared to say that all the foodgrains we are selling through the fair price shops are being utilised properly.

Shri A. C. Guha: What are the functions of these advisory committees?

Shri A. P. Jain: They are to supervise the working of the fair price shops and see that foodgrains are properly supplied to the buyers and that proper price is charged

Shri A. C. Guha: What about stock and supply?

Shri A. P. Jain: They will also look into that and make a complaint if the stocks are run down I am as anxious as any other hon Member here that the malpractices that may be obtaining in fair price shops should be stopped and I am prepared to join hands with them in trying to suppress these malpractices

Shri Ranga: Are all political parties represented on it?

Shri A. P. Jain: Generally, the constitution of these committees is something like this The local MLA, to whatever political party he may belong, is a member. The member of the municipal board or the district board or the local panchayat, to whatever party one may belong, is a member of this committee. Three other representatives are nominated by the State Government and in many of the

cases where I have gone into, I have found that they have taken care not only to appoint Congressmen but also others. I do not say that the same practice is being followed everywhere but that is what we have asked them to do and we expect them to do that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In U.P. orders were issued forming these non-official committees and the tragedy is that these non-official committee members are to be nominated by officials..... (*Interruptions.*)

Shri A. P. Jain: Somebody has to be appointed and I think it is not a serious objection.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: In some places in U.P. the President of the local panchayat board is associated and is working as the supervisor.

Shri A. P. Jain: Shri Asoka Mehta made a serious charge about the quality of the foodgrains. A similar charge had been made by one of his colleagues who had visited Eastern U.P. along with the team. I mean Shri Triloki Singh. I had a talk with him and I have told him that I am not interested in supplying bad stuff. I am prepared to arrange for a surprise visit by Shri Triloki Singh or by any of his colleagues and if in the godowns, there is any bad stock, I will not issue it.

18 hrs.

I am not prepared to say that out of about 10 or 11 lakh tons in the Government stocks, there will not be any bad stuff here and there. But I am prepared to say that we have taken good care to see that our stocks are clean, the stocks which we receive from America or Canada are clean. There is no dust in the stocks which we receive. If there is dust or dirt mixed up with the foodgrains, it must have been mixed up either in the central godowns or elsewhere, at any one of the stages through which these foodgrains have to pass.

I am here prepared to extend an offer to the hon. Members of this House, that they may select a team of two or three persons—it need not be a very big team—and pay a surprise visit to any of the godowns throughout India, and if the stuff is found to be bad I will take action against the persons who are responsible for it. It is possible that some admixture might have been done later on. I am prepared to join hands with hon. Members to find out whether any malpractices exist.

But I want to give an absolute assurance to this House that we want only to give clean stuff, the stuff as we receive from the United States. I admit that a certain percentage of shrivelled grain is there, and a certain tolerance has to be allowed for that; otherwise, if any foreign matter is there it must have been mixed up at one stage or the other.

When I was in Bankura godown, a deputation of all the political parties except the Congress saw me. They brought me some rice and also some wheat. They said: "This is the stuff that is being supplied". I told the supply office: "Take one or two or three of these gentlemen who are prepared to accompany you. Take them to any of the central godowns. Let them take out the samples. If that is the kind of thing that is being supplied from our godowns, I shall take the consequences." Then they said that the stuff they had brought was from the fair-price shops. I said to my man: "Go with them and collect the samples from the fair-price shops." Then they said that everything had been set right on receiving the news that I was going there. That is something which I cannot probably accept. I am prepared to take out samples from my godowns. I cannot vouchsafe for the State Governments, but I am prepared to recommend it to them that anybody who has got any suspicion over the foodgrains should be allowed to take samples from their godowns, because everyone is interested in stopping these malpractices. We may not be able to do many things, but this is certainly a thing which

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we can do If we fail to do it, then surely the fault is ours Therefore, as soon as I received the names I will make arrangements for the team to pay surprise visits to any of my godowns

Shri Halder (Diamond Harbour—Reserved—Sch Castes) Sir, I want to put one question to the hon Minister Several thousands of maunds of foodgrains were sent from Madras, Bombay and Andhra to Calcutta in open wagons during these rainy days They were sent in roofless wagons and most of the grains germinated May I know who is responsible for it, the Railway Ministry or the Food Ministry?

Shri A. P. Jain: Lakhs of tons of foodgrains are moved every week I am not in a position to say about a thousand tons sent from one place, I am not in a position to say anything about it

These are some of the points, Sir which I wanted to touch in regard to the food side of the problem Now I come to the agricultural side That is a very important even more important than the procurement and supply of food It is a sad thing that year after year we have depended upon imports We cannot depend upon imports for all times It may be that in a bad year—and I say that the present year is a bad year—we may have to import from abroad But the problem can be solved only by stepping up our agriculural production

I have confessed it without reservation that our food production has not been able to keep pace with the demand Nevertheless it is a fact that the food production has been constantly going up In a bad year there may have been a fall compared to the previous year but even in a bad year it is much higher than what it was before the advent of the First Five Year Plan The figures for the three years preceding the First Five Year Plan, that is 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50, go to show that the total production of foodgrains—cereals and pulses—in India, was on an average, nearly 52 million tons Take any year. The White Paper has given the figures. It includes good years and bad years and the last five years from 1953-54 to 1957-58 can be said to be fairly representative, that is, from 1953-54 to 1957-58 They include two bad years, 1957-58 and 1955-56, one average year, 1954-55 and two good years, 1953-54 and 1956-57 That is generally the cycle Now, I put a question do not these figures indicate that there has been a rise in the production of foodgrains?

Again, take the case of cotton In pre-Independent India, we were producing only 22-lakh bales Now, we are producing 48-lakh bales That is there has been an addition of 26-lakh bales of a value of Rs 300 crores Take next the case of jute

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha That was when India was undivided

Shri A P Jain. We have taken the figure for that portion which has come to us

Shri Ranga If we had diverted all those lands to produce foodcrops, we would have had more food

Shri A P Jain I will answer that question Please have a little patience In pre-Independent India we were importing 45 lakh bales of jute At present we are importing only seven lakhs That is, we have produced 38-lakh bales which are of a value of Rs 65 crores Similar is the story with some other cash crops Of all the Members, I am a little surprised that Shri Ranga should be raising the question—

Shri Ranga. I want him to pay some tribute to our peasants, Sir.

Shri A. P. Jain: I was exactly coming to that. That is what I am going. The position is that we are today producing more cash crops which are not only meeting the requirements of our factories but which are also earning for us the foreign exchange. Today, two-thirds of our foreign exchange earnings come directly either from the export of primary agricultural produce or from the agricultural component in the manufactured goods; for instance, cotton in the case of textiles and jute in the case of manufactured goods. That is by no means a small contribution, and as, Shri Ranga said, this is a matter of felicitation to the farmer.

Another line of argument which has been followed during the course of the debate is that as if the resources available are unlimited and, may be either out of cussedness or out of ignorance, my Ministry and the State Departments of Agriculture are not utilising them. An hon Member—I believe it was Shri T. Subramanyam—raised the question of the tractors. He said that tractors are in short supply. He also said that some tractors are being cannibalised, that is, some are broken into parts in order to feed the other tractors. That is a fact. I know it. Even in the Central Tractor Organisation, tractors are being dismantled with a view to provide parts for other tractors.

Mr. Speaker: Food producing tractors have become cannibals?

Shri A. P. Jain: They are cannibals between themselves, but they are also producing food. Why is that happening? Our requirements of foreign exchange for tractors was Rs. 1,43,00,000 and for spare parts Rs. 60 lakhs. On account of the paucity of foreign exchange, we had an allocation of Rs 80 lakhs for purchasing tractors and Rs. 40 lakhs for purchasing spare parts. He also raised the question of iron and steel for agricultural purposes. In 1957-58, our demand was 3·9 lakhs tons; allocations were 92,000 tons. For 1958-59, from April to September, our requirements are 1·8 lakhs tons; allocations are 52,000 tons. This question has been considered at the inter-ministerial level. I do not blame the relevant Ministry; they have got other duties. It is true that some iron and steel is being supplied for the manufacture of furniture. That question also came up for consideration, but the point there was, what happens to the people who are today engaged in the manufacturing process? Are they to be thrown out and if they are thrown out, will it be possible to revive them? There a cut has been applied and they have on the whole tried to meet our demands.

So, these are the limitations under which we have to work. The fact of the situation is that not only in the Food and Agriculture Ministry, but in all the different sectors of our economy, we are passing through a difficult time. I would be the happiest person if we could import fertilisers worth Rs. 100 crores. I have got a scheme worked out Fertilisers worth Rs. 100 crores would give us food worth Rs. 300 crores. It is a very nice scheme and I have put it across to the Ministry of Finance. But their question is, where are we to get Rs. 100 crores of foreign exchange? As much as possible, we are trying to get money from the source of foreign aid for the purchase of fertilisers. But nonetheless, fertilisers which are so important for agricultural production and upon which both the Foodgrain Enquiry Committee as also my Ministry place the greatest emphasis cannot be got in sufficient quantities for want of foreign exchange. It cannot be said to be the fault of any Ministry or the Government, because the situation is such that we have not got the wherewithal to buy them. Nonetheless, we are trying to do our best.

I have no doubt that there are immense possibilities of raising agricultural production. I am also not prepared to say that we have done all that we should have done. There have

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been mistakes. I know that there are cases when supplies do not reach in time, when the supplies are inadequate and it is for that reason that we have been thinking of a new scheme; we have worked it out, and that is intensive campaign.

An hon. Member said I had used the expression 'shock brigade' and asked me "Where are you going to give the shock?" I have never used that expression. Perhaps some newspapers in their enthusiasm have used that expression. Our idea is to go on intensive campaign, by which we mean that we shall mobilise our resources on the spot before the sowing session, i.e seeds, fertilisers and insecticides. An hon Member suggested treatment with agrasin or sulphur. That is a very simple treatment and we can take care that enough of agrasin and sulphur is made available at the places

We are also going to mobilise our resources for plant protection, so that if there is any attack, it may be combated quickly Now that is so far as the mobilisation of the material resources is concerned

On the other side, we have human resources, that is, people who are acquainted with agriculture, who do not go to the countryside in a spirit of bossing, but who know the job and who go there to assist I do not like the expression "shock brigade" But I do certainly like something which really helps the people. We are preparing a scheme according to which specialists of the agricultural colleges and schools, senior students of agricultural colleges, advanced farmers, they will all be put into a pool. These people will go to the places and stay there in particular areas from 10 to 15 days and assist the farmer in his operations They are not going to interfere with his work, because the farmer knows his job. Wherever he needs assistance, that will be available to him.

18·16 hrs

[Shri Barman *in the Chair*]

For example, he will be given assistance in sowing, in making small channels and other things. But they will work as catalytic agents. That is what we are trying to do. I hope that will yield some fruits. It will, to a large extent, depend upon the co-operation that we get, because, as the Prime Minister said today, the success of our scheme still depends upon the popular co-operation I appeal to the hon. Members of this House belonging to the different political parties that food is a national problem We have undertaken a scheme and hon. Members will agree that it has some virtues in it, may be that they do not agree with all aspects of the scheme. I invite their co-operation in the matter of more production of food

Now I come to some of the points raised by some of the hon Members, because it is not possible to cover all the points raised by them An important question was raised about the price policy. Shri Asoka Mehta raised that question, and it was supported by Shri Parulekar Now let us clearly understand what do we mean by a price policy Let us analyse the various factors—price policy in relation to the producer, price policy in relation to the consumer and the price policy in relation to parity between the prices of foodgrains and cash crops and agricultural produce as against manufactured goods. This is what I understand by the price policy.

Now, let us take these items separately. Firstly is the question of the price in relation to the producer. That falls into two parts. One is the assurance of the minimum price; another is the procurement price. Now,

both these aspects of this problem were dealt with by the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee Report. So far as the minimum price is concerned, there are two opinions today. One view is expressed by Shri C. D. Pande that in the context of the high ruling prices of today they have no relevance. There is another school of thought which says that maybe the prices are ruling high today; but within a year or two they may come down.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary (Kesaria): It happened previously.

Shri A. P. Jain: Therefore, if an assurance is given to a farmer that the Government will be prepared to buy the stuff in an unlimited quantity, he will plan his production accordingly. Now, this point is before the Government and the House will remember that some time ago a communique was issued on behalf of the Government in which an assurance was given that the agricultural prices will not be allowed to go beyond a fair limit. If that happens, then the Government will enter the market to purchase. We have done so in the past and we shall do so in future.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: In the past the prices were so low that there was no necessity.

Shri A. P. Jain: I agree with the hon. Member. They are more or less distressed prices and whatever price we fix now must have some relationship with present conditions.

Shri Bibhuti Mishra (Bagaha): What have you done regarding jute prices, because jute is also agricultural production?

Shri A. P. Jain: Now, the other question is with regard to the procurement prices. Have we or have we not got a policy for the procurement prices? We have fixed the procurement price of coarse rice at Rs. 16 and we also intimated the Government of Punjab that we were prepared to buy wheat at Rs. 13|8|.

Here, I would like to refer to the recommendation of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee on page 92.

> "For the current year we feel that the price for coarse paddy may be fixed at between Rs. 9.25 per maund and Rs. 11|- per maund and of rice between Rs. 15|- and Rs. 17|- per maund for fair average quality. It will be considered generally reasonable all over the country.
>
> "Similarly, price for wheat between Rs. 13/- per maund and Rs. 15|- per maund for average quality would be considered such as would give a reasonable incentive to the producer and be fair to the consumer and will also pay due regard to the cost structure in the country."

Have we not followed that policy?

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: In 1955, the price fixed for wheat was Rs. 10-.

Shri A. P. Jain: I am talking of today.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: What about jute today?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as jute is concerned, the ceiling of the fair prices have not been fixed because there are various factors about the export and other things which have created difficulties. I have discussed this question with some of the hon. Members more than once. Every assistance has been given for the movement of jute so that fair prices may be obtained.

श्री विभूति मिश्र (बगहा) : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जूट की प्राइस के बारे में क्या किया गया है । आज कल जूट का सीजन आ रहा है । जूट १६ रुपये से २० रुपये मन तक बिकता है पर उसका जो बारा बन

[श्री विभूति मिश्र]

जाता है वह ४० रुपये मन बिकता है । मिनिस्टर साहब ने अभी बतलाया कि जूट का सामान ७० करोड़ का या न जाने कितने का बाहर जाता है । तो जूट की प्राइस के बारे में क्या किया जा रहा है यह मै जानना चाहता हूं ।

Shri A. P. Jain: Now, I come to the consumer. I have talked about the prices in relation to the producer. Now I come to the prices in relation to the consumer.

Shri Ranga: He was good enough to constitute advisory committees when it comes to fair price shops, but why is it that he was not good enough to constitute an advisory committee to advise him in regard to the prices? Why is it that he did not care to consult even the Andhra Government which is now giving him so much of a surplus?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have got letters which I have exchanged with them, but as the hon. Prime Minister said today, there is sometimes a conflict of views between the producing State and the consuming States. There is conflict of view about the prices between Andhra and Kerala and between Andhra and Madras. While Andhra Pradesh wants higher prices to be fixed, the other States which are consuming States do not want high prices. We have to take a decision. It is totally wrong on the part of the hon. Member to say that the Andhra Government have not been consulted. May be that we have not been able to accept their recommendations.

Shri Ranga: Why did you not accept their recommendation? Because they are not a Government?

Shri A. P. Jain: Because of the reason that I have given.

Shri Ranga: What are the reasons?

Shri A. P. Jain: We have to fix a price which is fair to all.

Shri Ranga: No, no.

Shri A. P. Jain: Then, I come to the question of prices in relation to the consumer.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: What about the point regarding sugarcane?

Shri A. P. Jain: I am talking of food and not about other things.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Sugar is also part of food.

Mr Speaker: Food is a subject on which anybody can speak.

Shri A. P. Jain: Then, I come to the question of the price in relation to the consumer. We are releasing for sale through the fair price shops wheat at the rate of Rs. 14 a maund including gunny bag and fair average quality rice at Rs 16 a maund including gunny bag. Both these involve a large amount of subsidy. We also fix the price at which these shops are to sell, that is, after including the transport charges and a profit of four annas or six annas per maund. Both these prices whether in relation to imported stuff or internally procured stuff are highly subsidised prices. To a very large number of people—their number may be between 5 crores and 6 crores —we are supplying food at these subsidised prices

Then comes the question of open market prices, that is, of the stocks which are sold in the open market. The Foodgrains Enquiry Committee discussed this question in detail. They said that they were not in favour of total rationing and control. But, they recommended the application of controls on trade and to an extent on the

producer and consumer: on the consumer because he will get only a limited quantity and on the producer because his stocks were to be bought at a reasonable price and not at any price. The method that they generally suggested was that India must be divided into zones. They have approved of all the zones that exist today in India. They suggested that there must be limitation on advances by banks against foodgrains. That policy has been not only followed, but it has been tightened.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Has it helped in any way?

Shri A. P. Jain: They had suggested the distribution of food through fair price shops. That is being done. If there is any defect or malpractice in any of the fair price shops, we must all join hands in suppressing it They suggested procurement. We have done procurement and the quantity which we have been able to procure is by no means insignificant. In one year we have been able to procure anything between 5 and 6 lakh tons of rice and other foodgrains. Here, again, we have got a price policy. Nobody can accuse us of having no price policy.

Then, I come to the question of fixing parity prices between foodgrains and cash crops and agricultural produce and manufactured goods. That question is full of difficulties. No country in the world has been able to establish a definite parity between these prices. None the less it is a laudable effort and an effort which should be made to establish some sort of parity. The Foodgrains Enquiry Committee was fully conscious of it and in more than one place, they have pointed out the difficulties. In a regimented economy where you undertake rationed distribution and full control, it may be possible to fix and it may be, even there, it may not be fully effective. But in a free economy, it is not so easy to fix. The trends of the prices of foodgrains and other agricultural produce and the consumer goods during the last few years have shown fluctuations. So, the applicability of this principle can be only of limited effectiveness.

On these points there is no difference between what Shri Asoka Mehta has recommended in his report and what we have done. The only difference that comes in is on the organisation which he has suggested, and the more I have thought about it the more I feel convinced that the decision which we have taken is the only decision and correct decision.

Shri Rajendra Singh: What is your decision?

Shri A. P. Jain: Everybody has to take his own decision, not your decision.

A number of other points have been raised, but I have exhausted my time and it is not possible for me to deal with the other aspects. I have dealt with the broad aspects of this question, and I am very thankful to you for giving me this time.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I ask one question?

Mr. Speaker: If during the course of two days the hon. Member has not been convinced, will he be convinced in two minutes?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Only one question, very simple question.

Mr. Speaker: I agree. The only difficulty is this, when after 1½ hours of reply the hon. Minister has not been able to convince the hon. Member, in two minutes is he going to convince him?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: One question, it is simple.

Mr. Speaker: It is useless. Let us proceed. This is a never-ending trouble. Food we are always eating and we are....

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want a clarification. The hon. Food Minister has just said that he wants the co-operation of all the political parties in their approach. I may mention for the information of the House and the Minister that I wrote a letter to the hon. Prime Minister requesting him to call a conference of all the political parties..

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is not seeking a clarification. The hon. Member is giving out that he is doing more good to the community then the Minister himself.

Shri Tangamani: There were letters addressed to the Prime Minister and also the Food Minister The Prime Minister gives one reply and the Food Minister gives another reply.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The Prime Minister says that he agrees that it is not a matter of political parties and that we should consider it in consultation, and the Food Minister suggested an informal consultative committee and not a conference of all the political parties I want to know. ..

Shri Rajendra Singh: I have one clarification to seek.

Mr. Speaker: No, no Order, order When I am standing, hon. Member cannot stand, and therefore there is no good asking me Now I will put the amendments to the vote of the House.

There are two amendments to amendment No. 8 by Shri Bibhuti Mishra.

Do any of the hon Members want their amendments to be put to vote?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: No. 5 in my name and Shri Sarju Pandey. It has been moved by him.

Shri Yadav: No. 3 also.

Mr. Speaker: Is there no agreement? Can we not choose only one? No. 5 seems to be more comprehensive. Let me see after No. 5 is put.

The question is:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House having considered the food situation in the country, feels disappointed and is of the opinion that the following measures be immediately taken to solve the food problem in the country:—

(i) a Conference of all political parties be called to discuss the food situation;

(ii) a Price Stabilisation Committee at the Centre and Regional Committees be formed;

(iii) rapid agrarian reforms in close co-operation with Kisan Sabhas be introduced;

(iv) the Essential Commodities Act may be enforced on the foodgrains hoarders;

(v) irrigation facilities be increased;

(vi) effective steps for controlling floods be taken;

(vii) effective measures against speculative hoarding of foodgrains by hoarders and blackmarketeers be taken;

(viu) a permanent remedy for chronic scarcity areas like West Bengal, Bihar and Eastern U P. be provided".

The motion was negatived.

An Hon. Member: Voice vote should be recorded.

Mr. Speaker: A voice or two.

I do not think No. 3 is pressed.

Shri Yadav: I press.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House having considered the food situation in the country, is of opinion that Government should take the following concrete steps to save the country from food crisis and to stop the import of foodgrains from foreign countries:—

(a) uniform land reforms on the following basis be introduced throughout the country—

(i) ceiling of land holdings be fixed;

(ii) remission of land revenue on uneconomic holdings;

(iii) only tillers of land should have right to possess land;

(b) waste land should be reclaimed by recruiting a food army and agricultural labour in the country be settled on those lands;

(c) provision be made for irrigational facilities;

(d) necessary steps be taken immediately to check floods;

(e) the following provision be made for immediate assistance to food-scarcity areas—

(i) opening of a large number of fair price foodgrain shops where foodgrains be sold at a price lesser than that prevailing at the harvesting time;

(ii) arrangements be made to provide free meals to those who have no purchasing power or to provide work for creating purchasing power".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in the substitute motior moved by Shri Bibhuti Mishra, printed as No. 8 in List No. 3 of substitute motions,—

In paragraph 2, line 2,—

after "take" *insert* "more".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava's amendment* need not be put.

The question is:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House having considered the food situation in the country is of opinion that the steps taken so far by Government to improve the Food Situation are generally satisfactory.

This House further requests the Government to take more suitable and active steps with a view to make the country fully self-sufficient in the matter of food in the shortest possible period."

*The motion was adopted.***

18.35 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday the 22nd August, 1958.

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*His amendment moved on the 21st August, 1958, is deemed to have been negatived.

**All the other substitute motions moved on the 20th August, 1958, are deemed to have been negatived.

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343	Revision of steel retention prices	2091
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347	Loan to Orissa	2092-93
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350	Panchayatghara in Himachal Pradesh	2094-95
351	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur and Delhi Polytechnic	2095
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353	Central Government Advocates in City Civil Court, Calcutta	2096
354	Australian help for Steel Industry	2097
356	Writings of Maulana Azad	2097
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664	Teachers in Government Basic Schools in Delhi	2117-18
665	Commissions and Committees under the Ministry	2118
666	Secondary Education in Bombay	2118
667	Employees in National Physical Laboratory	2118
668	Industrial employees in M.E.S.	2119
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672	Reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	2120-21
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674	Russian credit for Bhilai Steel Plant	2121-22
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712	Ashrams for Scheduled Tribes	2140-41
713	University of Delhi	2141
714	Theft in Manipur Post Office.	2141
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716	Indian Athletes in Asian Games	2142
717	Smuggling	2143
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719	Assistance to educational institutions in Rajasthan	2144
720	Aid to Kerala State	2144-45
721	Machinery for Neyveli Project	2145
722	Minor irrigation Projects	2146
723	Delhi University	2146
724	Testing adulteration of ghee	2146-47

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 2147-48

The following papers were laid on the Table:

(1) A copy of the Finance Accounts of the Government of Delhi 1954-55 and the Audit Report 1955]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE —*contd.* COLUMNS

under Article 151 (1) of the Constitution.

(2) A copy of each of the following papers :

(i) Annual Report of the Indian Mining and Construction Company (Private) Limited for the year 1956-57 along with the Audited Accounts, under sub-section (1) of section 639 of the Companies Act, 1956.

(ii) Brief Review by the Government of the Report.

(3) A copy of the supplementary statement No. V showing action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by Ministers during the Fourth Session 1958 of Second Lok Sabha.

(4) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 689, dated the 16th August, 1958 under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, making certain amendment to the All India Services (Leave) Rules, 1955.

(5) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 638, dated the 25th July, 1958 under sub-section (4) of Section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, making certain amendments to the Customs Duties Drawback (Radio Receivers) Rules, 1957.

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REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE PRESENTED 2148

Shri Upendranath Burman presented the Report of the Joint Committee on the Merchant Shipping Bill, 1958.

EVIDENCE ON BILL LAID ON THE TABLE . . . 2148

A copy of the evidence tendered before the Joint Committee on the *Merchant Shipping* Bill was laid on the Table.

REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ADOPTED 2149

Twenty-seventh Report was adopted.

MOTION ADOPTED 2149—2320

Further discussion on the motion *re* food situation was concluded and the substitute motion was adopted.

AGENDA FOR FRIDAY, 22ND AUGUST, 1958—

Further consideration of the motion to consider the Working Journalists (Fixation of Rates of Wages) Bill and passing of the Bill and also further consideration of the motion to consider the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill by Shri Jhulan Sinha and passing of the Bill and also consideration of Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill.